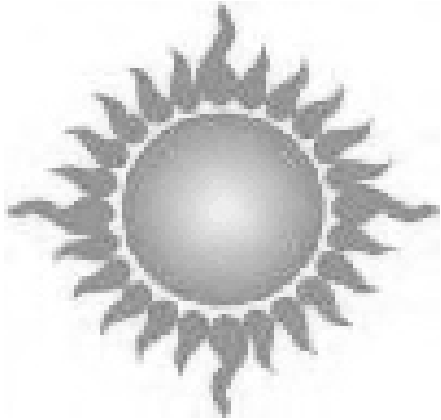
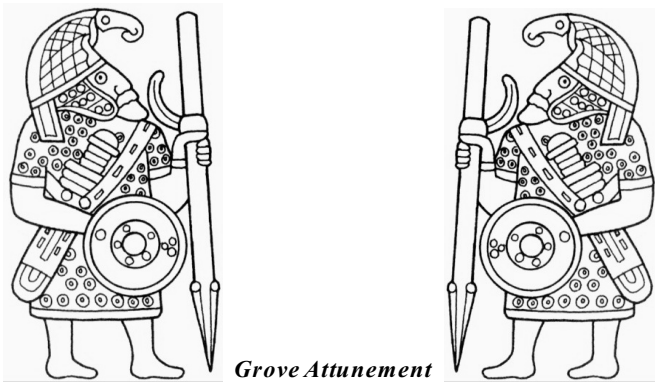


# Whispering Lake Grove A.D.F.



Midsummer Ritual  
June 27, 2004



*Grove Attunement*

## *(Modified two part meditation) Part I*

### **(female voice)**

Closing your eyes, take a few deep, cleansing breath(s) in through your nose and out through your mouth; (pause) in through your nose and out through your mouth (pause for a 2 count)

Taking a few deep breaths, focus on the sounds of nature around you (pause for a 4 count). Focus on the scents in the air about you (pause for a 4 count) Finally, focus on the feel of nature on your skin (pause for a 4 count).

Now envision your life:

A busy person scrambling from here to there, like the busy bee collecting pollen to produce the sweet nectar, honey. See yourself as you dart from here to there, all along the blossoming trees. (pause for 4 count)

### **(Sacrificer)**

Begin to slow your busy thoughts breathing in through your nose and out through your mouth; (pause for 2 count) until your thoughts resemble the pollen filled flower which slowly drifts in the misty lake breeze, still moving, but more slowly, more elegantly (pause for a 2 count).

As you continue to slow your thoughts, feel yourself move from the flower to the strengthening branches of the tree, moving up the branches until you reach the mighty trunk. (pause for 2 count) As you become one with the steady, strong trunk, feel your power, your majesty, as you join the worlds of land, sea, and sky. (pause for 2 count)

### **(female voice)**

Now feel your roots reaching down into the depths that have not been disturbed for a millennium. Feel the Mighty Ones lift the waters of life from The Well to your awaiting roots. Drink of the water that was old when the age of man was young. Feel their ancient wisdom as they lend strength to your roots, providing a

solid foundation for your growth. Draw the essence of the Earth up your roots, into your trunk, and out to your blossoming branches. (pause 2 count)

**(Sacrificer)**

Turning you attention toward your trunk, see the Noble Spirits about you. For they dance around you, live within you, and embrace you. Look as they decorate you in the colors of the season. Hear them as their voices mingle with your own. Feel the companionship they offer as they share their lives with you. Be thankful for the wisdom they collect and bring to you, as they prepare you for all things to come.

**(female voice)**

Now follow your trunk to your upper most branches extending high into the sky, as the Sun's blessings radiate down upon you. Feel the Shining Ones reaching down to guide your branches upward towards them. See your inspired thoughts form as new sprouts along your branches. Welcome this new growth (pause for 4 count).

**(Sacrificer)**

Looking beyond your self, for you stand as a mighty tree, amongst the other trees within the grove. They grow as you grow, for all are in harmony. As you open your eyes, see but one grove, one tribe and one people with a common purpose.

**Procession (Bard)**

Now let us raise our voices in song as we proceed to our Nemeton.

**In song**

We Are Heathens **(Bard)**

**Chorus:** And they'll know we are heathens by our might and our main, And they'll know what heathen means by the name.

We are brave men and women, courage worn like a shield  
We will slay our foes and leave their bodies in the field  
And we'll make sure that our kin are all safe and healed

**Chorus**

We are honest with others; to the gods, we are Tru  
When we speak, there is no doubt as to what we will do  
Honest words can bring you close to your kin, too

**Chorus**

We will live with honor, we have nothing to hide  
The worth of our ancestors was judged when they died  
We will save womens' dignity and honor mens' pride

**Chorus**

We will demonstrate loyalty to gods and to man  
Forging bonds of fidelity wherever we can  
And some day our deeds will be sung by our clan

**Chorus**

We will make a place for visitors to our stead  
We will share our ale and we will share our bread  
And tonight, you must stay inside, in our spare bed

**Chorus**

Our minds will be focused, like a wielded sword  
Our hearts act as one, as our bodies' ward  
Over each one's existence there is only one lord

**Chorus**

We will work with each other, we will work side by side  
Younger hands will be influenced by older hands' guide  
And together, the work we've done, will aid others' lives

**Chorus**

We rely on each person to bear his own weight  
He will hold up his end making his worth great  
And together we become the masters of our fate

**Chorus**

We stand strong in the face of adversity  
We are stone in the path of instability  
Persevere, now, to make it so our folk remain free

**Chorus**

*Words by Karl Donaldsson*

*Participants will be censured and asperged as they enter the Nemeton.*

*Once all participants have been purified, 3 hammer strikes will announce the beginning of the ritual with the following words.*

**(Druid #3)**

**(Hammer strike)** Urd record the passing of our work!

**(Hammer strike)** Verdandi watch over our work as it occurs!

**(Hammer strike)** Skuld bless the work we have yet to complete!

**Opening Blessings**

**Earth Mother (Druid #1)**

Nerthus, Primal Mother of Earth  
First and Eldest of the Van  
You who cradles the World Tree in your loving embrace  
Ancient Mother of Midgard

Cloaked in green and brown  
Adorned with amber bright  
You who sows fertility in the fields and folk  
We call forth your cattle drawn carriage from its Sacred Grove

May our weapons be sheathed  
May our thoughts be of peace  
May our fields yield plenty

Nerthus, Ancient Earth Mother, accept our sacrifice!  
**(Sacrificer)** *Amber is sacrificed to the Earth Mother.*

**All:** Nerthus, All Hail and Welcome!

**Sky Father (Druid #2)**

Mighty Tyr, Ancient Mystery of the Sky  
Boldest and most courageous of the Aesir  
You who makes fertile the Earth with your seed  
Bright Father of Midgard

Primal power to sway victory in battle  
Bringer of order and binder of chaos  
You who sacrificed yourself for the folk  
We call forth your might and ancient wisdom

May we show courage in our battles  
May we seek to do right by our kith and kin  
May we learn the meaning of true sacrifice through your guidance.

Tyr, Ancient Sky Father, accept our sacrifice!

**(Sacrificer)** *Clarified butter is sacrificed upon the fire to the Sky Father.*

**All:** Tyr, All Hail and Welcome!

**(Bard)** And now we raise our voices in song to the Earth  
Mother and Sky Father.

**All in song**

*Earth Mother, We sing to your body,  
Earth Mother, We sing to your bones,  
Earth Mother, We honor your body,  
Earth Mother, We honor your stones.*

*(lyrics and music written by an unknown author)*

*Sky Father, We sing to your spirit,  
Sky Father, We sing to your light,  
Sky Father, We honor your spirit,  
Sky Father, We honor your might,*

*(lyrics by Scaan Glass)*

*Your children, We gather before you,  
Your children, Together we call,  
Your children, We honor your presence,  
Your children, Look to us all.*

*(lyrics by Raven and Carrion Mann)*

**Divine Inspiration (Bard)**

You, who traveled to Gunnlod's court  
The blood of Kvasir (Kvah-seer) your quest  
A giant, a snake and three sips of the brew

And the treasure of Suttung (Soot-ung) was yours.

You cunningly took back what was stolen by force  
And to Asgard on eagles wings flew  
You returned to the Gods a most precious gift  
And share with the folk at your will.

Mighty Allfather of the Aesir  
Winner, keeper and giver of the mead of poetry  
Pour down your mead upon us this night  
That our songs and praise may echo through the worlds.

Odinn, One-Eyed Wanderer, accept our sacrifice!

**(Sacrificer) Mead is sacrificed into the offering bowl.**

**All: Odinn, All Hail and Welcome!**

**Purpose and Precedent (Druid #4)**

This eve we gather upon the Earth as one folk;  
To worship and honor the Kindred as one people;  
Celebrating the fertility of the world around us.  
As we honor Sunna's radiance that has reached its height!

We assemble our kin and clan beneath the Sky;  
To make sacrifice to the Kindred;  
Receiving their blessings in return.

As we honor Freyr and Freya, Bringers of continued fertility  
and good harvest and Thor, the Mighty Defender of Life.

We join together this eve to keep the Feast of Midsummer.  
To honor the cycle of life, death and rebirth.  
Remembering the journey of the fairest and brightest of the  
Aesir.

As we await Balder's return at Ragnarok.

May all who gather this eve be welcome among us!

### ***Fire, Well & Tree***

#### ***To the fire (Druid #1)***

Kindled of the hearth fire  
Scared flame upon the Earth  
Joining together hearts and minds  
Darkness banished before the roaring blaze

Transcending the realm of light and shadow  
Purifier and cleanser of mind, body and spirit  
Sacred fire open unto us the way to the Shining Ones.

**(Sacrificer)** *Clarified butter is sacrificed to the fire.*

#### ***To the well (Druid #2)***

Threshold to the Other world  
Window to the souls  
Cauldron of inspiration  
Sacred shrine of old

Ford of cleansing waters  
Vessel of rebirth  
Sacred well open unto us a path to the Mighty Dead.

**(Sacrificer)** *Silver is sacrificed into the well.*

#### ***To the bile (Druid #3)***

Mighty ash of the ancient grove  
Roots burying deep within the Underworld  
Wise teacher of traditions old  
Branches reaching into the heavens.

Keeper of sacred knowledge  
Pillar joining Earth and Sky; spanning all worlds  
Road to all realms; Sacred tree  
Let all who walk this way walk in your wisdom.

**(Sacrificer)** *The bile is asperged with water from the well  
and censed with incense.*

**To Land, Sea & Sky (Druid #4)**

The waters support and surround us.

The land extends about us.

The sky stretches above us.

And at the center burns a living flame.

Let us pray with a good fire.

May all the Kindred bless us.

May our worship be true.

May our actions be just.

May our love be pure.

Blessings and honor and worship to the holy ones.

*Land, Sea & Sky Text by Ceisiwr Serith*

**(Bard)** We now raise our voices in song.

*All in song*

**By Fire and by Water, between the Earth and Sky**

***We stand like the World-Tree rooted, deep, crowned high.***

**By Fire and by Water, between the Earth and Sky**

***We stand like the World-Tree rooted, deep, crowned high.***

*Come we now to the Well, the eye and the mouth of Earth,*

*Come we now to the Well, and silver we bring.*

*Come we now to the Well, the waters of rebirth*

*Come we now to the Well, together we sing.*

**CHORUS**

*We will kindle a Fire, Bless all, and with harm to none,*

*We will kindle a Fire, and offering pour,*

*We will kindle a Fire, a light 'neath the Moon and Sun,*

*We will kindle a Fire, our spirits will soar.*

**CHORUS**

*Gather we at the Tree, the root & the crown of all*

*Gather we at the Tree, below & above,*

*Gather we at the Tree, together we make our call,*

*Gather we at the Tree, In wisdom and love.*

**CHORUS**

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**Opening the Gates (Druid #4)**

Heimdall, Son of the Nine Waves; Father of Mankind

It is your might and magic that wards the threshold.

White Lord of the Crossroads; Sounder of Gjallarhorn

It is your warning that all will hear before Ragnarok.

Mighty Watchman of the Gods, this night we ask for your protection and guidance as we travel between Midgard and Asgard.

**(Sacrificer)** *A sacrifice of mead is made .*

Heimdall, Great Guardian of Bifrost, accept our sacrifice!

**All:** Heimdall, All Hail and Welcome!

Heimdall, merge now your magick with mine!

See the flame leaping forth from the fire.  
And the mist arising from the well,  
Flame and mist converging upon the tree  
Forming a meeting place between the realms.

***Striking the hammer sign over the fire***

Let the fire burning towards the heavens open as a gate that we may follow the way to Asgard.

***Striking the hammer sign over the water***

Let the well whose depths reach the Underworld open as a gate that we may follow the way to the Mighty Dead.

Let the tree, bridge between Earth & Sky, be open to us.

**All:** Let the Gates Be Open!

**(Bard)** Let us now sing our praise to Heimdall.

***All in song***

*Gatekeeper open the portals,  
Between the Gods and mortals,  
Power freely flows, as our magic grows!*

***Repeat chant three times***

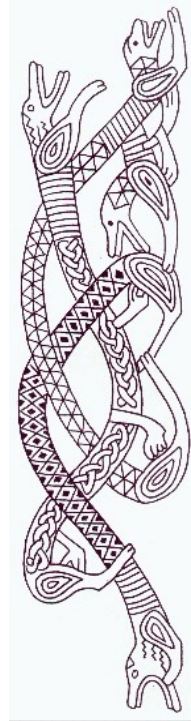
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***Kindred Offerings***

***Landvettir/ Noble Spirits (Druid #1)***

Beasts of legend and lore  
Lurkers of mist and shadow  
Creatures of fur, fin and feather  
Allies of the middle realm

Guardians of the woodland and stream  
Protectors of the mountain and glen  
Spirits of the natural world  
Companions in life, death and rebirth



Beings of myth and magic  
Messengers of the Otherworld  
Dwellers of land, sea and sky  
Watchers of this sacred ground

Noble Spirits who inspire our hearts and minds  
Creatures who guide our actions and intentions  
Join us this night as we celebrate the Feast of Midsummer  
Hear us, Spirits both great and small, for we are in need of  
your company!

**(Sacrificer)** *A portion of seeds and cream are sacrificed  
upon the ground.*

Landvettir, known and unknown, accept our sacrifice!

**All:** Landvettir, All Hail and Welcome!

***Alfar and Disir/ The Mighty Dead (Druid #2)***

Priests of magic and lore  
Chieftains of kith and clan  
Bringers of law and order  
Mighty Ones of the realm below

Heros of myth and legend

Warriors of strength and courage  
Champions of might and honor  
Beloved Dead of blood and spirit

Hunters of forest and glade  
Tenders of flock and field  
Fishers of lake, sea and stream  
Ancestors of flesh and bone

Mighty Ones who inspire our hearts and minds  
Ancestors who guide our actions and intentions  
Join us this night as we celebrate the Feast of Midsummer!  
Hear us, Teachers and Guides, for we are in need of your  
wisdom!

**(Sacrificer)** *A portion of mead is sacrificed into the well.*  
Alfar and Disir, known and unknown, accept our sacrifice!

**All:** Alfar and Disir, All Hail and Welcome!

***The Aesir/ Shining Ones (Druid #3)***

Guardians of hearth and home  
Protectors of kith and kin  
Bringers of peace and plenty  
Shining Ones of the realm above



Champions of honor and might  
Wielders of war and destruction  
Dwellers of light and shadow  
Deities of land, sea and sky

Patrons of song and music  
Masters of fire and forge  
Warders of the thresholds  
Gods of life, death and rebirth

Shining Ones who inspire our hearts and minds  
Gods who guide our actions and intentions  
Join us this night as we celebrate the Feast of Midsummer!  
Hear us Eldest and Brightest for we are in need of your  
blessings!

**(Sacrificer)** *Clarified butter is sacrificed into the fire.*

Aesir, known and unknown, accept our sacrifice!

**All:** Aesir, All Hail and Welcome!

**(Bard)** Let us now raise our voices in song to the Kindred.

*Hail all the Gods,  
Hail all the Goddesses,  
Hail all the Holy Ones,  
We dwell together.*

**Repeat chant three times**

© *Words by Paul Maurice*

*Music by Paul Maurice, Sean Miller and Gail Williams*

**Key Offerings**

***Descriptive invocations of the patron powers for the rite are given. Sacrifices are made and a portion of each is held back for the final sacrifice.***

**Thor (Druid #2)**

All Hail, Ruddy Son of Earth and Sky!  
For your might defends all life!  
All Hail, Wielder of Great Mjollner (myoll-near)!  
For it's strike wards this sacred place!  
All Hail, Powerful Champion of Asgard!  
For your strength brings order from chaos!  
All Hail, Thundering God of Cloud Filled Skies!  
For tonight we reach the height of Summer!

All Hail, Thor!  
We honor you this eve.

**(Sacrificer)** *An sacrifice of stout is made.*

Mighty Thor, accept our sacrifice!

**All:** Thor, All Hail and Welcome!

**Freyr and Freya** (Druid #4)

All Hail, Bright Twins of the Sea God, Njord!  
For you are Lord and Lady of the Aesir and Vanir.  
All Hail, Fertile Ones of Earth and Sky!  
For you complete the Cycle of Life.  
All Hail, Freyr, Ruler of the Rain and Sunshine!  
For your strong hand keeps life fruitful.  
All Hail, Freya, Mistress of Mystery and Magic!  
For you kindle the imagination and spark the heart.

All Hail, Freyr and Freya!  
We honor you this eve!

**(Sacrificer)** *Mugwort and dried roses is sacrificed into the fire for Freyr and Freya .*

Freyr and Freya, accept our sacrifice!

**All:** Freyr and Freya; All Hail and Welcome!

**Sunna** (Druid #3)

All Hail, The Rider of the horse drawn Sun-Wagon.  
For it is your hands that have shaped the Sun.  
All Hail, The Gleaming One who is shining in might!  
For it is your light that blesses the dying.  
All Hail, The Glorious Bride of the Heavens!  
For you are the foe of all who travel dark paths wishing ill-will.  
All Hail, The Summer Sun!  
For on Midsummer your power reaches its height.

**(Sacrificer)** *An offering of a sun-wheel is made upon the fire.*

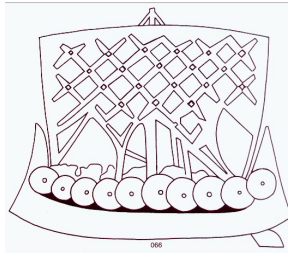
Sunna, Great Goddess of Light and Life, accept our sacrifice!

**All:** Sunna, All Hail and Welcome!

**(Bard)** Now let us offer our praise to the Kindred.

*Praise Offerings*

Ritual participants are given an opportunity to make praise offerings in the form of poetry, song, dance, or works of their hands etc. Please avoid clapping after praise offerings.



#### **Seasonal Enactment**

“Re-telling the Death of Balder”

**Once all praise offering our complete a Druid #4 will do a final praise offering to Balder. At the end of this offering the Sacrificer and Druid #3 will leave the Nemeton and go to the ship.**

**After the praise offering to Balder Druid #4 will speak saying:**

**(Druid #4)** Behold good Folk, the long ship that will carry Balder to the Otherworld approaches!

**As these words are spoken the Sacrificer and Druid #3 will process into the Nemeton, circling once, carrying the ship. The ship will then be placed in the shrine prepared for it.**

**(Druid #4)** We will now prepare Balder for his long journey to the Otherworld. You are now invited to come forward and place goods within the ship sending Balder off in a manner befitting the son of a King. As you place these goods within the ship you may do so in silence or you may lift the horn to make a toast, boast or oath sending Balder, the Fairest and

Brightest, off on the journey we must all take.

**Participants come forward to place grave goods in the ship and to give honor to Balder. Any offerings remaining once all have spoken will be sacrificed into the ship by the Sacrificer. Once all goods have been placed in the ship. The Sacrificer and Fire Tender will lift the ship onto the fire. As the ship is lifted into the fire and begins to burn all will join in the following prayer lead by the Bard.**

**(Bard)** Good Folk, join me now in prayer as Balder begins his journey.

**(Bard)** Repeat prayer three times pausing for a four count between each.

Lo, there do I see my father

Lo, there do I see my mother and my sisters and my brothers

Lo, there do I see the line of my people back to the beginning

Lo, they do call to me

They bid me take place among them in the Halls of Valhalla

Where the brave may live forever...

*(Borrowed from the movie The 13<sup>th</sup> Warrior)*

**After the prayer has been recited the assembly will stand in silence for a few moments as the ship burns.**

**(Druid #4)** Grieve not, Good Folk! For the young hero is not gone forever. Balder will return at the sounding of Gjallarhorn, for he is the hope of an age! Just as Balder now journeys, we too will one day journey to the Otherworld to fulfill the cycle of life,

death and rebirth.

***Sacrifice and Omen***

**(Sacrificer)**

Through Heimdall, Great Guardian of Bifrost , we have opened the Gates this night.

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;

We have honored the mighty Kindred as they walk among us.

Through communication with the Otherworld;

We receive guidance, inspiration and insight;

As we prepare to make our final sacrifice.

***A final sacrifice is prepared. (Sacrificer & Fire Tender)***

**(Sacrificer)**

Kindred of land, sea and sky we call to you!

Hear us this night for we are in need of your guidance and wisdom. Tonight we call out from the crossroads to all who aid us!

We call to our allies of the middle realm!

Landvettir, who inspire our hearts and minds.

All beings of the land about us, who offer their guidance and protection.

We call to the Mighty Dead of the realm below!

Ancestors who guide our actions and intentions.

All of the Alfir and Disir who offer their wisdom and inspiration.

We call out once more from the crossroads!

We call to the Aesir of the realm above.

Gods and Goddesses who inspire our hearts and minds and guide our actions and intentions.

Shining Ones who bless our lives and our gathering.

Deities, whose might and bounty know no bounds!

***The final sacrifice is made. (Sacrificer & Fire Tender)***

Mighty Kindred, accept our sacrifice!

**All:** Kindred, accept our sacrifice!

**(Druid #4)**

It is with love, honor and respect that we have offered hospitality to the Kindred this night.

We have called through the Gates and deep within the Otherworld our invitation to gather in their honor.

We have sung their praise and made our sacrifice.

It is our hope that our words and sacrifice have conveyed our love.

**(Druid #2)**

Let us now close our eyes and open our hearts and minds to the Kindred. Breathing in through your nose and out through your mouth; in through your nose and out through your mouth (pause) With each breath pouring out our love as we prepare to receive the blessings of the Kindred upon us.

***Participants meditate on the kindred, sending their energies through the gates.***

As we have gathered here as one people, joining hearts and minds we see those we have honored this night. We feel their presence and hear their whispers from the Otherworld.

We send our love, honor and respect into the Middle realm to the Landvettir, our protectors and guides. It is their secret knowledge and companionship that we strive to share and be one with. May they feel our love; see our sincerity and hear our praise in their honor. (pause for 2 count) Feel the presence of the

Noble Spirits. (pause) Hear their whispers as we await their message.

We send our love, honor and respect deep into the Sacred Well to the Alfar and Disir, our ancestors of blood and of spirit, it is their timeless wisdom that inspires us to strive always to better ourselves and our world around us. May they feel our love; see our sincerity and hear our praise in their honor. (pause for 2 count) Feel the presence of the Mighty Dead. (pause) Hear their whispers as we await their message.

We send our love, honor and respect through the Sacred Fire into the heavens to the Aesir, Eldest and Wisest, it is their guidance and blessings we seek. May they feel our love, see our sincerity and hear our praise in their honor. (pause for 2 count) Feel the presence of the Shining Ones. (pause) Hear their whispers as we await their message.

***During the Omen meditation above the Sacrificer and Druid 4 with take, interpret and pronounce the Omen. One Rune is drawn for each of the three Kindred.***

The Kindred have spoken. What use have you in your lives for their knowledge and wisdom.

From the Noble Spirits/Landvettir \_\_\_\_\_.  
From the Mighty Dead/ Alfar & Disir \_\_\_\_\_.  
From the Shining Ones/ the Aesir \_\_\_\_\_.

***The Blessing (Sacrificer) & (Bard)***  
***Two horns will be filled and sat in the midst of the hallows.***  
***The following words will be spoken over the horns.***

**(Bard)** As in the ways of old we have given our gifts freely and as in the ways of old a gift is given unto us in return.

**(Sacrificer)** We will drink deep of the Horn of Inspiration.

May the blessings of health, wealth and wisdom be ours.

**(Bard)** Shining Ones your blessings upon us!

**All:** Shining Ones your blessings upon us!

**(Sacrificer)** We gather with you between Earth and Sky. We are proud to call ourselves your people.

**(Bard)** Once again, Shining Ones your blessings upon us!

**All:** Shining Ones your blessings upon us!

**(Sacrificer)** We have brought our offerings. We have made sacrifice.

**(Bard)** One last time, Shining Ones your blessings upon us!

**All:** Shining Ones your blessings upon us!

***The horns are lifted saluting the fire, well and tree.***

**(Sacrificer)** Behold the Waters of Life!

**(Bard)** Shining Ones hear and bless us.

**(Sacrificer)** Mighty Thor, Defender of Asgard and Protector of Life, hallow these Waters of Life.

**(Sacrificer)** Freyr and Freya, bringers of fertility and good harvest hallow these Waters of Life.

**(Sacrificer)** Sunna, Great Goddess of Light and Life, hallow these Waters of Life.

***The horns are lifted before the participants.***

**(Bard)** Behold the Waters of Life!

**All:** Behold the Waters of Life!

**(Sacrificer)** Now Good folk, drink deep; the blessings of the Shining Ones.

*Drinking horns are passed and all participants share the waters. As the horns are passed the following song is sung by all participants.*

**(Bard)** As we receive the blessing of the Shining Ones let us raise our voices in song.

**All in Song**

*Pour the waters, raise the cup, drink your share of wisdom deep, strength and love now fill us up as the elder ways we keep.*

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*Repeat until the horns have been passed to all participants.*

**Thanksgiving and Closing**

**(Bard)**

We now prepare to thank the powers that have attended us during this rite. At this time the gates between the worlds remain open and we invite any to give personal offering or sacrifice to the powers.

*Participants are given time to make final offerings.*

**(Druid #3)** Bright Sunna, Rider of the horse drawn Sun-Wagon May you continue to shine brightly upon Midgard. Gleaming One, we thank you for your blessings this eve. May there be

peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

**All:** Sunna, we thank you!

**(Druid #4)** Freyr and Freya, Lord and Lady of the Aesir and Vanir. May you continue to bring your fertility and magic into your lives. Bright Twins, we thank you for your blessings this eve. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

**All:** Freyr and Freya, we thank you!

**(Druid #2)** Mighty Thor, Wielder of Great Mjollnir. May you continue to strike order from chaos, defending the Gods and Man from its grasp. Red-Bearded Thunderer, we thank you for your blessings this eve. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

**All:** Thor, we thank you!

**(Druid #3)** Aesir, Shining Ones, Eldest and Brightest. May you continue to guide and bless us as we walk this path. Shining Ones, known and unknown, we thank you for your blessings and guidance this eve. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

**All:** Aesir, we thank you!

**(Druid #2)** Alfar and Disir, Mighty Ones of blood and spirit. Those who inspire and guide us in our lives. Beloved Dead we thank you for the wisdom you have shared with us. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

**All:** Alfar and Disir, we thank you!

**(Druid #1)** Landvettir, Noble Spirits of land, sea and sky.

Companions who aid and guide us in our journey. Landvettir, we thank you for sharing your knowledge and protection. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

**All:** Landvettir, we thank you!

**(Bard)** Odinn, Winner, Keeper and Giver of the Mead of Poetry, may you continue to pour down your divine treasure upon us. Great One-Eyed Wanderer, we thank you for your blessings of inspiration and eloquence. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

**All:** Odinn, we thank you!

**(Druid #2)** Mighty Tyr, Ancient Mystery of the Sky, may you continue to show us the way to courage and right. Bright Father of the Aesir, we thank you for your sacrifice. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

**All:** Tyr, we thank you!

**(Druid #1)** Nerthus, Primal Mother of Earth, may you continue to grant us peace and plenty. Ancient Mother, we thank you for all life. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

**All:** Nerthus, we thank you!

**(Druid #4)** Heimdall, Mighty Watchman of the Gods; we thank you for your protection and guidance this night. We now ask that you close the gates, warding the way between Midgard and Asgard once more. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire

**All:** Heimdall, we thank you!

Heimdall, Great Guardian of Bifrost, Let the Gates be closed!

**All:** Let the Gates be closed!

**(Sacrificer)** We now return all that has gone unused to the Earth and the Sky, may they continue to support, surround and sustain us.

*All offerings that remain are burnt in the fire or scattered upon the Earth by the (Sacrificer and Fire Tender)*

#### ***Grove Attunement & Meditation-Part II***

**(Sacrificer)** Good folk, join me as we once again close our eyes; breathing deeply in through your nose and out through your mouth; (pause) in through your nose and out through your mouth.

Reentering your tree form, once more feel your roots reaching the depths of the Earth. Feel the strength of your trunk and the Sun's radiant warmth on your branches. Feel the water and Sun's energy mingle throughout your tree spirit. (pause for a 2 count)

**(female voice)** As the mighty oak tree is part of the forest, we are all part of the great circle of life. Remember the blessings we have received together this night. Feel the oneness; reflect upon the journey we have taken together. (pause for a 2 count)

Remember the blessings of the Shining Ones. The guidance and wisdom that they have offered you. Allow their guidance to move through your branches to your blossoming tips. Let that guidance flow from your branches into the gentle breeze, so that it may radiate from your being to touch all who cross your path.

**(Sacrificer)** Remember the ancient wisdom of the Mighty Dead. The knowledge and life's blood that they have offered you. Allow this wisdom to flow down from your branches to your

trunk and into your roots as the water you had taken in. Allow this water, which forms the foundation on which you stand, to flow from you to the Great Lake to nourish all that is around you.

**(female voice)** Remember the voices of the Noble Spirits. The friendship and knowledge they have offered you. Allow their guidance and friendship to strengthen your trunk. Feel your trunk grow larger and your outer bark become more protective. Let that strength allow you to show hospitality to all who ask and enable you to persevere in times of struggle.

**(Sacrificer)** As your tree form begins to fade and your human form returns, feel the blessings you have been touched with; remember the lessons you have learned; feel a closeness to the Kindred. As you open your eyes, be ever mindful of the journey we have taken together this eve. Take with you as we conclude our worship the wisdom and blessings of the Kindred.

**All:** We will keep the faith until the sky falls upon us and crushes us; until the earth opens and swallows us; until the seas arise and overwhelm us.

**(Bard)** Once more may we now raise our voices in song as we leave our Nemeton.

CHORUS

*The sky fuels the waters  
And the waters sustain the skies  
We walk together from this place  
With the honored as our guides*

*Strong in our purpose*

*We balance and survive  
From many wells of fortitude  
Our spirits are revived*

CHORUS

*Joyous in our sharing  
We honor dead and alive  
With voices of sacred wisdom  
We travel the path of our lives*

CHORUS

*Fulfilled in our learning  
Our souls will always thrive  
In our varied hearts and minds  
We keep the sacred for all time*

CHORUS

*(lyrics by Moon Dragon; music by Raven of the Sorrows)*

**Special Thanks To:**

***All who attended, participated and shared in our Midsummer celebration.***

***Stone Creed Grove, ADF for the chants  
The Gatekeeper Chant, The Portal Song; Pour the Waters***

***Karl Donaldsson- for the words to the chant We Are Heathens***

***Paul Maurice, Sean Miller and Gail Williams for the chant  
Hail all the Gods***

***Ceisiwr Serith for the text for recreating the cosmos.***



***Whispering Lake Grove  
Midsummer Ritual  
2004***

*Ritual text written by*

***Members of the Whispering Lake Grove***

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