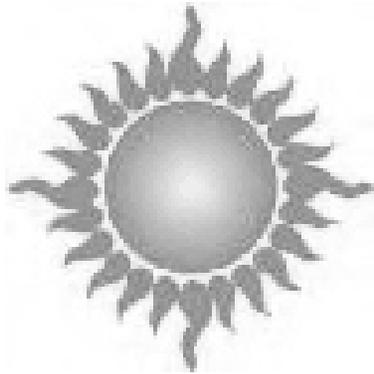


Whispering Lake Grove A.D.F.



Midsummer

June 25, 2006
6:00 PM

PREPARATION

GROVE ATTUNEMENT (Raven)

Closing your eyes, take a few deep cleansing breaths.

Breathing in through your nose and out through your mouth.

In through your nose and out through your mouth.

As you breathe, lay aside the worries, troubles and woes of the mundane world. *(pause 4 count)*

We now stand between Earth and Sky

Feel your feet firmly resting upon the Earth

Know that below us flows the primal waters

Cold, dark and chaotic; filled with the potential of all life.

Allow the primal waters to enter your being.

Feel the coolness of the waters as they pool within your belly, within your heart and finally, within your head. *(pause 8 count)*

Reaching high into the sky above

Feel the illuminating radiance of the Heavens

Know that above us burns the primal fires

Warm, light and ordered; filled with the spark of all life.

Allow the primal fire to enter your being.

Feel the warmth of the fires as they illuminate your mind, your heart and finally your spirit. *(pause 8 count)*

Feel the primal powers of Earth and Sky as they surge through you, lending strength and energy to your being. *(pause 8 count)*

As we open our eyes, know that we assemble as one folk to worship with a common purpose.

All:

May our worship be true.

May our actions be just.

May our love be pure.

Blessings, honor and worship to the Holy Ones.

Honoring Our Grove Patron (Carrion)

For our Ancestors the Sea was a place of danger and mystery. For those, who dared to travel upon the waves, they knew that each journey may be their last, as fierce storms and unforgiving waves swept over them. But, born from the Sea was Manannan Mac Lir to calm the waves and quiet the storms.

As our Ancestors once did, we call this eve upon the Son of the Sea and Patron of Whispering Lake Grove that he may continue to guide and protect us as we navigate the storms of our lives.

We now call forth one among us in his honor....

A member of Whispering Lake Grove will prepare a special offering for the Grove Patron and give the offering at this time.

PROCESSION

We Are Heathens (Carrion)

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

Repeat until all participants have entered the worship area.

1ST PHASE

STARTING THE RITE & ESTABLISHING THE GROUP MIND CLEAR-CUT BEGINNING

OPENING PRAYERS

(Moondragon)

Musical Signal- *A Thor's Hammer strikes the anvil 9 times.*

(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!

Clear-cut Beginning **(Raven)**

Once more the summer sun reaches its height and its brilliance illuminates Midgard, as the green world nears maturity.

A warm wind blows across the land, while the threat of fearsome storms remains and the dark hand of chaos begins its' ascent.

Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

Earth Mother (Moondragon)

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

As children of the Earth and Sky,

May our weapons be sheathed

May our thoughts be of peace

May our fields yield plenty

Nerthus, we call upon the life-giving magic of the Earth!

standing at the sacred fire arms outstretched to the sky.

Sky Father (Eld Naðr)

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

As children of the Earth and Sky,
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, we call upon the illuminating power of the Sky!

(Moondragon)(Eld Naðr)

Great Earth Mother and Sky Father,

Through your sacred union springs forth all life!

Mother and Father of all that was, of all that is and all that will be.

We come before you in love and respect and ask that you uphold and bless our gathering!

White bread & Clarified butter is offered upon the fire to the Sky Father.

Earth Mother and Sky Father, accept our offering!

All: Earth Mother and Sky Father, All Hail and Welcome!

Invocation for Bardic Inspiration

(Raven) *Eld Naðr will bring the offering to Raven.*

You traveled afar 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 what was stolen by force

And to Asgard on eagles wings flew.

Returning to the Gods, a most precious gift

That is shared with the folk at your will.

(Carrion)

But without chaos; order can not be

Blood brothers forever Mighty Odin and Sly Loki.

We offer this night a portion to chaos

That order may assume its rightful place.

Carrion taking the offering from Raven will offer one quarter of Odin's mead to Loki and then the honey is returned to Raven.

(Raven)

Mighty All-Father 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 throughout the nine worlds.

(Raven) *The remaining mead is offered to Odin*

Odin, One-Eyed Wanderer, accept our offering!

All: Odin, All Hail and Welcome!

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE (Raven)

Purpose of the Ritual

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.

Historical Precedent

"Re-telling of the Death of Balder"

May all who gather this eve be welcome among us!

CONSECRATION OF SPACE & PARTICIPANTS

Outdwellers *(at the Southern fire the Sacrificer lays a token for the Outdwellers)* **(Carrion)**

Dark dwellers, take heed this night!
Know that Mighty Thor will ward this place!
Mjollnir will strike order from choas!
Driving all that is twisted and bent into the darkness.

Loki, sly-one, who has dared to share the fire's light.
You and your brood, Fenrir, Jormungand and Hel,
Hoards, whose minds know not rest and whose spirits know not peace.

To Ragnarok you will battle with the Aesir and the Folk.

Trolls, primal bringers of choas;
Etins of the mountains and those of fire and ice.
Lurkers at the edge of the scared fire's light.
Those whose screams and cries, harmonize not with our songs and praise.

Dark dwellers, take heed this night!
This time and place we claim as ours!
You may have held it in the past, you may hold it in the future,
but for now,
Let it be known that it is OURS!

We have given to you all that we intend to give.
Take what has been laid beyond the fire's light
And trouble us not this night!

Claiming Place

Hammer Rite (Eld Naðr)

Begin by signing the hammer in the North saying:

Hammer in the North, hallow and hold this holy stead.

Turning 90 degrees to the right trace another hammer sign saying:

Hammer in the East, hallow and hold this holy stead.

And in the South saying:

Hammer in the South, hallow and hold this holy stead.

And in the West saying:

Hammer in the West, hallow and hold this holy stead.

Returning to the North, direct your gaze upward, there again trace the hammer sign on the ceiling of the sphere saying:

Hammer over us, hallow and hold this holy stead.

And then project the hammer sign below to the "floor" of the sphere saying:

Hammer below us, hallow and hold this holy stead.

Now, strike the "cross" position with your arms straight out and say:

Hammer hallow and hold this holy stead!

Turning to the right repeat this for each of the other four directions and once for the vertical axis.

Finally, center the forces by folding your arms in from the cross position with your fingers touching at the solar plexus and say:

Around us and in us, Asgardhr and Midhgardhr!

Hammer Rite Written by The Troth

Purification of Participants & Space

The aspersion bowl is filled by Chris T. from the Well and the censor is kindled from the Fire by Moondragon. Ritual participants are cleansed with water from the well and purified with smoke from the censor. After the participants are cleansed and purified the Nemeton is cleansed and purified as the

*following power building chant is led by **Raven**.*

With the powers to create and destroy.

And the strength to cleanse and purify.

When all participants have been purified Raven will step forward saying:

(Raven Mann)

Through the union of fire and water,

Our Nemeton is made whole and holy!

Once more we have met the threat of chaos with order and laid claim to this place. We have made sacred this space and time that we may worship and honor the Kindred as one people.

2ND PHASE

RECREATING THE COSMOS & PRELIMINARY POWER RAISING

THE SACRED CENTER

Affirmation of Unity

(Carrion) Let us now raise our voice as one people.

In Song

Deep Peace (Author Unknown)

Deep peace of the flowing air to you

Deep peace of the sacred flame

Deep peace of the running wave to you

Deep peace of the quiet earth

May peace, may peace, may peace fill your soul

Let peace, let peace, let peace make you whole.

Repeat chant 3 times

Establishing Sacred Time (Carrion)

In the beginning so too in the end; there was but fire and ice
And between them a vast emptiness.

To the North the ice and snow of Niflheim, frigid winds and fearsome storms ravaged the land.

To the South the fires of Muspell, molten and glowing the dancing flames consumed all that lay before them.

In the vast emptiness the warm breath of Muspell mingled with the ice of Niflheim. The warm winds began to melt the ice and tiny drops of water began to form. Within the tiny drops of water new life began to stir and the powers to destroy life became the powers that created it.

Fire, Well & Tree (chant) **(Carrion)**

Fire, bright Fire

Gate to the Shining Ones

Fire, bright Fire

Our passage to the Sky

Fire, bright Fire

Warmth of our Community

Spark of Life

We honor you now

Incense is offered to the fire. (Eld Naðr)

Well, deep Well

Gate to the Underworld

Well, deep Well

Our passage to the Sea

Well, deep Well

Wisdom of the Ancestors

Waters of Life

We honor you now

Silver is offered into the well. (Eld Naðr)

Tree, great Tree

Gate that reaches everywhere

Tree, great Tree

With you we share the Land

Tree, great Tree

Our passage to the Otherworld

Source of Life

We honor you now.

The bile is asperged with water from the well and censed with incense. (Eld Naðr)

Words & music by Pandora

COMPLETING THE COSMOLOGY

To Land, Sea & Sky (Raven)

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

OPENING THE GATES

Invocation to the Gatekeeper (Raven)

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.

A offering of German beer and bread is made . (Eld Naðr)

Heimdall, Great Guardian of Bifrost, accept our offering!

All: Heimdall, All Hail and Welcome!

(Carrion) 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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Opening the Gates

(Raven, Carrion & Eld Naðr)

Heimdall, merge now your magick with ours!

(Raven)

See the flame leaping forth from the fire.

(Carrion)

See the mist arising from the well,

(Eld Naðr)

Flame and mist converging upon the tree.

Forming a meeting place between the realms

(Raven) 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 the Shining Ones.

(Carrion) Striking the hammer sign over the well

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

(Eld Naðr) Striking the hammer sign upon the tree

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

By the land before us!

(Carrion)

By the seas about us!

(Raven)

By the sky above us!

(Raven)(Eld Naðr)(Carrion)

Let the Gates Be Open!

GENERAL OFFERINGS TO AND INVOCATION OF THE SPIRITS

(Moondragon)

Now that the world of the living and that of the spirit are one, we call out from the crossroads to the Mighty Kindred. Allies of Midgard!

Bright and shining messengers to the Otherworld

Protectors of this sacred ground.

Light Alfs, House Ghosts and Wights,

Be welcome among us!

Alcohol is offered. (Eld Naðr)

Wise Ones of the Nine Worlds!

Beloved Dead of blood and spirit

Ancestors of flesh and bone

Alfar and Disir, be welcome among us!

Alcohol is offered. (Eld Naðr)

Eldest and Brightest of Asgard!

Deities of Might and Magic

Bringers of life, death and rebirth.

Mighty Aesir and Bountiful Vanir

Shining Ones be welcome among us!

Alcohol is offered. (Eld Naðr)

The alcohol is ignited in offering. (Eld Naðr)

(Carrion) 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.

Lords of the sky,

Ladies of the sacred earth,

*Spirits and the ancestors,
We dwell together.*

Repeat chant 3x

© *Words by Paul Maurice. Music by Paul Maurice, Sean Miller and Gail Williams*

Mighty Kindred, accept our offerings!

All: Mighty Kindred, All Hail and Welcome!

3RD PHASE

**MAJOR SENDING OF POWER TO DEITIES OF THE
OCCASION**

HONORING THE DEITIES OF THE RITE

Thor **(Eld Naðr)**

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.

(Eld Naðr) *Fire water is offered to Thor.*

Mighty Thor, accept our offering!

All: Thor, All Hail and Welcome!

Freya and Freya **(Raven)**

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!

(Eld Naðr) *Mugwort and dried roses are offered into the fire
for Freyr and Freya .*

Freyr and Freya, accept our offering!

All: Freyr and Freya; All Hail and Welcome!

Sunna **(Carrion)**

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.

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

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

All: Sunna, All Hail and Welcome!

PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS

(Raven) At this time you may bring forth your offerings of praise to the Deities of the Occasion. *(Once all personal praise offerings have been made to the Deities of the Occasion the Group will offer praise)*

Group Praise Offering/Seasonal Enactment

(Raven) Behold good Folk, the long ship that will carry Balder to the Otherworld approaches!

As these words are spoken the Eld Naðr and Moondragon will process into the Nemeton, circling once, carrying the ship. The ship will then be placed in the shrine prepared for it.

(Raven) 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. Once all have had an opportunity to give grave goods and honor to Balder, Raven will offer Nanna as a companion for Balder's journey. Eld Naðr will then place any remaining offering into the ship. Once all goods have been placed in the ship. Eld Naðr and Raven 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 Carrion.

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

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 13th Warrior)

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

(Raven) 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.

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

(Raven)

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;

We our Deities, as they walk among us.

Through communication with the Otherworld;

We receive their guidance, inspiration and insight.

Tonight we call out from the crossroads to our guests of honor!

As we prepare to make our final sacrifice.

The final sacrifice is prepared. (Eld Naðr)

(Eld Naðr)

It is in love, honor and respect that we have offered hospitality to our guests this night.

We have sung their praise; made our sacrifice.

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

We call once more through the Gates and deep within the Otherworld that all shall know of our devotion.

Eldest and Brightest of Midsummer, we honor you.

The final sacrifice is made.

Shining Ones, accept our sacrifice!

All: Shining Ones, accept our sacrifice!

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

(Carrion)

Let us close our eyes and open our hearts and minds to our honored guests. Breathing in through your nose and out through your mouth; in through your nose and out through your mouth (pause) With each breath pouring our love and energy through the gates to the Otherworld, as we prepare to receive the blessings of the Deities upon us.

THE OMEN

(Raven)(Eld Naðr)

The Omen is taken by drawing three Runes. The seer then interprets the omen asking if our sacrifice and offerings have been accepted. The Seer then leads the company to contemplate the blessings/warnings of the omen from the Deities of the Occasion.

4TH PHASE

RECEIVING AND USING THE RETURN POWER

CALLING FOR THE BLESSING **(Raven) (Moondragon)**

Two pitchers will be filled and sat in the midst of the hallows. The following words will be spoken over the pitchers.

(Raven) 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.

(Moondragon) We will drink deep of the Cup of Inspiration. May the blessings of health, wealth and wisdom be ours.

(Raven) Shining Ones your blessings upon us!

All: Shining Ones your blessings upon us!

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

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

All: Shining Ones your blessings upon us!

(Moondragon) We have brought our offerings. We have made

sacrifice.

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

All: Shining Ones your blessings upon us!

(Eld Naðr) *The pitchers are lifted saluting the fire, well and tree.*

HALLOWING OF THE WATERS

(Eld Naðr) Behold the Waters of Life!

(Moondragon) Shining Ones hear and bless us.

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

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

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

(Eld Naðr) *lifts the pitchers before the participants.*

(Eld Naðr) Behold the Waters of Life!

All: Behold the Waters of Life!

AFFIRMATION OF THE BLESSINGS

(Eld Naðr) Now Good folk, do you wish to receive the blessings Thor, Freyr, Freya and Sunna have for us this night? _____ . Then we shall drink deep their blessings!

The Waters are passed (Chris T. & Chris F.) and all participants share the waters. As the waters are passed the following song is sung by all participants.

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

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.

5TH PHASE
UNWINDING AND ENDING THE CEREMONY

THANKING THE BEINGS

General Offering Period for Participants (Raven)

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.

(Carrion) 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. **(offering a final token of herbs to the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Sunna, we thank you!

(Raven) 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. **(offering a final token of herbs to the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Freyr and Freya, we thank you!

(Eld Naðr) 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. **(offering a final token of herbs to the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Thor, we thank you!

(Moondragon) Mighty Kindred of land, sea and sky, Eldest and Brightest of the Nine Worlds. Aesir and Vanir; Alfarr and Disir and Alfs, House Ghost and Wights. May you continue to protect, guide and bless us as we walk this path. Kindred we thank you for the knowledge and blessings you have shared with us. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Kindred, we thank you!

(Raven) Odin, 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. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Odin, we thank you!

CLOSING THE GATES

(Raven) Heimdall, Mighty Watchman of the Gods; we thank you for your protection and guidance this night. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire

All: Heimdall, we thank you!

(Raven)

Heimdall, Great Guardian of Bifrost, we now ask that you close the gates, warding the way between the worlds once more.

(Raven) Striking the hammer sign over the fire

Let the fire burning towards the heavens once more become but flames.

(Carrion) Striking the hammer sign over the well

Let the well whose depths reach the Underworld once more become but water.

(Eld Naðr) Striking the hammer sign upon the tree

Let the tree, pathway between Earth & Sky, become but wood. By the land before us!

(Carrion)

By the seas about us!

(Raven)

By the sky above us!

(Raven Mann)(Eld Naðr)(Carrion Mann)

Let the Gates be closed!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

(Eld Naðr) 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. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Tyr, we thank you!

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

All: Nerthus, we thank you!

(Eld Naðr) 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.*

STATEMENT OF ENDING

Unmerging, Regrounding & Recentering: Meditation

(Raven) Good folk, join me once more as we close our eyes; breathing deeply in through your nose and out through your mouth **(pause for a 2 count)**.

As the mighty ash is part of the forest, we are all part of the great circle of life. Remember the blessings we have received together this night **(pause)**.

As we stand between Earth and Sky

Once more feel your feet firmly resting upon the Earth

Know that below us flows the primal waters.

Once more feel the coolness of the waters that have pooled within your belly, within your heart and finally, within your head. **(pause 4 count)**

Reaching high into the sky above

Feel the illuminating radiance of the Heavens.

Know that above us burns the primal fires.

Once more feel the warmth of the fires that have illuminated your mind, your heart and finally your spirit. **(pause 4 count)**

Feel the primal powers of Earth and Sky surging through you, as they have given strength and energy to your being. **(pause 4 count)**

Keep of this power what you need, sending what remains forth from our beings into the Great Lake **(pause)**. See this energy heal and protect her as we conclude our worship.

May all that is be what was, that it may be again!

(Moondragon)

Musical Signal- *A Thor's Hammer strikes the anvil 9 times.*

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 arises and overwhelm us.

Recessional Song

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

Walk With Wisdom

Walk with wisdom, from this hallowed place

Walk not in sorrow, our roots shall ere embrace.

May strength be your brother, and honor be your friend,

And luck be your lover, until we meet again.

Words and music by Sable

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

Hammer Rite Written by The Troth

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*

Pandora for the chant

The Verticle Axis Chant

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

Wolf of Winter Night *for the text for the three Norns*

Sable *for the chant, Walk With Wisdom*

***Whispering Lake Grove, A.D.F.
Midsummer Ritual
2006***

***Ritual text written by
(Unless otherwise credited)***

Raven & Carrion Mann

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