



Whispering Lake Grove ADF



Samhain
October 26, 2008
6:00 PM

PREPARATION

GROVE ATTUNEMENT (Grollwynn)

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)*

Now join your hands, your hearts and your minds as one people.

(All participants join hands)

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)

Manannan Mac Lir

The Children of Earth we call you here.

Manannan Mac Lir

Help us to see with vision clear.

Lead us as we ride the waves.

Guide us as we cross the veil.

Lead us as we ride the waves.

Guide us as we cross the veil.

Repeat 3X

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

An offering is made to Manannan.

Manannan, Mist Weaver, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

PROCESSION (All in song)

In song (Grollwynn)

It's The Blood of the Ancients

That Runs Through Our Veins

And The Forms Pass

But The Circle of Life Remains

by Ellen Klaver & Charlie Murphy

Repeat until all participants have entered the ritual space.

OPENING PRAYERS

(Jim)

Musical Signal- *A drum beats 9 times.*

Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

Earth Mother & Sky Father

(Eld Naðr) kneeling at the well

Ancient One of ever changing beauty

Primal Mother of the Mighty Tuatha

And Great Goddess of Sovereignty

We are renewed in your waters

Cradled within your mantel of green

And sustained by your abundance

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

(Isaura) standing at the sacred fire arms outstretched to the sky.

Flashing One of the Sun's healing warmth

Brilliant Father of the Adventurous Gael

And Great God of the creative spark

We are purified between your flames

Strengthened through your radiant light

And prosper from your fertility

Bile, Sky Father, we call upon the illuminating power of the Sky!

(Eld Naðr) (Isaura)

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 we ask that you uphold and bless our gathering!

An offering of white bread and clarified butter is made to the Earth Mother and Sky Father.

Earth Mother and Sky Father, accept our offering!
All: Earth Mother and Sky Father, be welcome among us!

Invocation for Bardic Inspiration

(Grollwynn)

Goddess of inspiration and poetry,
Great Mother of song and music,
May our words echo in the sacred well.
May our hearts and minds burn with your eternal flame.
May our songs resonate upon the wind.
May you grant us the gift of inspiration and insight.
*An offering of cream & honey is placed in the offering bowl
for Brighid.*

Lady Brighid, accept our offering!
All: Brighid, be welcome among us!

A Prayer for the Elder Wise (Carrion)

The blood within our veins has also flowed in yours.
The thoughts that fill our mind have also weighed on yours.
The love and pain we feel has lived within your heart.
A well worn path we travel in your footsteps through the dark.

We are asking for your hand, for a torch to light the way.
For your guidance in our work and your wisdom as we pray.
That we may join the Elder Wise when our timetoo has passed,
Aiding future generations that we shall not be the last.

An offering of incense is made to the Elder Wise.

Elder Wise, accept our offering!
All: Elder Wise, be welcome among us!

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Purpose of the Ritual (Eld Naór)

Tonight we gather between the Earth and Sky.
To worship and honor the Morrighan and Dagda Mor.
To sing their praise and make our sacrifice.
As we seek their blessings in return.

We gather this night in celebration of the turning wheel.
Enjoying the final fruits of the harvest.
Tonight we celebrate life, death and rebirth,
As we remember those who have walked before us.

We gather this night at the crossroads.
In celebration of the Feast of Samhain.
Enjoying the company of friends and family.
As we remembering the ways of old.
While we welcome the new year before us.

Historical Precedent (Raven)

“Upon the River Boyne”

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)**

Beings of chaos and discord!
Hoards, whose minds know not rest and whose spirits know not
peace.
To all those whose screams and cries, harmonize not with our
songs and praise.
Know that 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.

May order reign and chaos trouble not our gathering!

Purification of Participants & Space

*The aspersion bowl is filled by Grollwynn. from the Well and the censor is kindled from the Fire by Isaura. 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)

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 that we may worship and honor the Kindred as one people.

THE SACRED CENTER

Affirmation of Unity

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

In Song

Cauldron of Changes (Author Unknown)

Cauldron of changes, blossom of bone

Arch of infinity, hole in the stone.

Repeat chant 3X 3 times

Establishing Sacred Time (Grollwynn)

In the beginning and so too in the end; there was but the fires of the Sky and the waters of the Earth and between them a vast emptiness. Now, within the vast emptiness the illuminating power of the heavens and the creative potential of the Earth converged. The fires of the Sky ignited the waters of the Earth and new life began to stir. Through the union of fire and water came forth the worlds, the realms and the Mighty Kindred., nine holy things which would create all others.

COMPLETING THE COSMOLOGY

To Land, Sea & Sky

(Raven) The waters support and surround us.

(Carrion) From the Underworld below,
Sacred waters flow within this well.

Offering of silver is made to the well.

(Raven) The land extends about us.

(Carrion) Within the Middleworld,
Sacred tree grow within this place.

Offering of water from the well and incense is made.

(Raven) The sky stretches above us.

(Carrion) From the Heavens above,
Sacred spark burn within this fire.

Offering of incense is made to the fire.

(Raven) And at the center burns a living flame.

(Carrion) Let us pray with a good fire.

(Raven) May all the Kindred bless us.

(Carrion) May our worship be true.

(Raven) May our actions be just.

(Carrion) May our love be pure.

(Raven) (Carrion) Blessings and honor and worship to the holy ones.

Land, Sea & Sky Text by Ceisiwr Serith, modified by Raven & Carrion Mann.

OPENING THE GATES

(Raven)

Manannan MacLir, it is your might and magic that wards the threshold.

Grey Rider of Aonbarr, we ask for your protection as we stand at the center of all worlds this night.

Mighty Lord of the Crossroads, as the world of the living and that of the spirit converge upon this place may you part the mist before us.

Irish whiskey is offered to Manannan.

Manannan MacLir, Mist Weaver, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

(Carrion) Let us raise our voices in song to the Gatekeeper!

All in song

Gatekeeper open the portals,

Between the Gods and mortals,

Power freely flows, as our magic grows!

Repeat chant three times

© *Liafal*

(Raven)(Carrion)(Grollwynn)

Manannan, merge now your magick with ours!

(Raven)

See the flame leaping forth from the fire.

(Carrion)

See the mist arising from the well,

(Grollwynn)

Flame and mist converging upon the tree.

Forming a meeting place between the realms

(Raven) Striking a sigil or triskel 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 a sigil or triskel 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.

(Grollwynn) Striking a sigil or triskel 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, Carrion)(Grollwynn)

Let the Gates Be Open!

KINDRED OFFERINGS

(Grollwynn)

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

(Isaura)

Allies of the Middle Realm!

Bright and shining messengers to the Otherworld

Elves, Sprites, and Faeries of the Hollow Hills

Protectors of this sacred ground.

Noble Ones, join us in celebration this night!

Bird Seed is offered.

Noble One, accept our offering!

All: Noble Ones, be welcome among us!

(Eld Naðr)

Wise Ones of the Realm Below!

Beloved Dead of blood and spirit;

Ancestors of flesh and bone

Heros of myth and legend

Mighty Ones, join us in celebration this night!

An offering of alcohol and bread is made.

Mighty Dead, accept our offering!

All: Mighty Dead, be welcome among us!

(Grollwynn)

Eldest and Brightest of the Realm Above!
Bringers of life, death and rebirth.
Deities of Might , of Magic and those of the Mist.
Blessed Children of Danu!
Shining and Chthonic Ones, join us in celebration this night!

Clarified butter is offered.

Shining and Chthonic Ones, accept our offering!

All: Shining and Chthonic Ones, be welcome among us!

In song (Grollwynn)

*Gods and Dead and Mighty Sidhe
Powers of Earth and Sky and Sea
By Fire and Well, by Sacred Tree
Offerings We Make to Ye
© Stone Creed Grove, ADF*

HONORING THE BEINGS OF THE OCCASION

Morrighan (Carrion)

On the wings of a raven the huntress rides the night.
Calling to her chosen few before the day's first light.
Great warriors have seen the withered hag upon the river's
ford.
As she washes their blood soaked armor; removed from bodies
torn.

Her vengeance brings great warriors forth.
Her fury fuels their fires.
Her rage fills their hearts and minds.
Their slain bodies quench her desires.

War is waged; the battle won.
The slain lay upon the ground.
The raven shrieks from over head.
Until their souls are found.

Great Phantom Queen of the Celts
Their death is not fore lorn.
For it is through you Great Morrighan
That a warrior's soul is reborn.

O, Great Queen, we offer you welcome this night.

An offering red wine and apples is made.

Morrighan, accept our offering!

All: Morrighan, be welcome among us!

Dagda (Raven)

From out of the hollow hills; a tall, broad shadow strides.
Upon his back a magic harp does ride.
Many have heard its gentle call;
Sweet music to turn the wheel toward fall.

His cauldron fills those that keep their oaths.
His bounty rewards their courage.
His club gives life yet death may bring.
To those opposing this mighty High King.

Enchanted was the Great Good God;
Upon the river, Boyne.
Through secret knowledge that was shared,
A victory was born.

All father of the Tuatha De Dannan.
Eldest and wisest of us all.

Through you we feed our sacred flames and plant our seeds this fall.

O, Great Good God, we welcome you among us this night.
An offering of oatmeal and beer is made. Dagda, accept our offering!

All: Dagda, be welcome among us!

PRAISE OFFERINGS

(Carrion) At this time you may bring forth your offerings of praise to the Morrighan and the Dagda Mor.

SEASONAL ENACTMENT

(Grollwynn) Tonight we commune with and give honor to the Mighty Dead, who have traveled far to be with us.

(Isaura) We commune with and give honor to both Ancestors of blood and those of spirit.

(Eld Naðr) We commune with and give honor to friends and family, who have passed from this world to the next, during this past year.

(Raven) Tonight many of us have brought representations of our Ancestors with us that we may remember and honor them. Let us meet a few of those who have assembled among us this day and place their remembrance on the shrine in their honor.

(Carrion) Who among you will come forth and introduce your ancestor to all that gather in celebration?

Participants will be given an opportunity to introduce their ancestors to all who have assembled and then may place their remembrance on the Shrine. Following each introduction the company will welcome the Ancestor.

(Name of Person) be welcome among us!

In Song (Carrion)

Let us raise our voice in song to honor our Ancestors.

Ancestors calling to me

Powers ancient and strong

Elder, sage, wise ones be

We've known you all along.

Repeat 3 X 3times.

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

(Raven)

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;

We honor the Morrighan and the Dagda Mor, 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 honored guests!

As we prepare to make our final sacrifice.

The final sacrifice is prepared.

(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.

Morrighan and Dagda Mor, we honor you.

The final sacrifice is made.

Honored Ones, accept our sacrifice!

All: Honored Ones, accept our sacrifice!

THE OMEN

(Eld Naðr)

The Omen is taken by drawing three Ogham. 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 Beings of the Occasion. While the omen is being taken Carrion will lead all present in the following chant.

(Carrion)

Let us raise our voices in song as the Beings of this Occasion reveal their will.

In song (Grollwynn)(Carrion)

Look into the well of memory

Look into the well of time

Look into the well of ages

I am yours, You are mine.

Listen to the ancient stories

Listen to the ancient songs

Listen to the ancient wisdom

I go on, You go on

Deep within your hearts are beating

Deep within are hearts we know

Our descendants will remember

Our love flows, Your love flows.

(Words & music by Emerald)

CALLING FOR THE BLESSING (Raven) (Carrion)

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.

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

(Raven) Honored Ones your blessings upon us!

All: Honored Ones your blessings upon us!

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

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

All: Honored Ones your blessings upon us!

(Carrion) We have brought our offerings. We have made sacrifice.

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

All: Honored Ones your blessings upon us!

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

HALLOWING OF THE WATERS

(Grollwynn) Behold the Waters of Life!

(Raven) Honored Ones hear and bless us.

(Carrion) Morrighan, Great Phantom Queen of the Irish Celts, hallow these waters of life.

(Raven) Dagda Mor, Great Good God, 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 of our honored guests? _____. Then we shall drink deep the blessings of the Morrighan and Dagda!

The Waters are passed (Grolbwyyn & Isaura) 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 our guests let us raise our voices in song.

In song

Back to the River, back to the Sea

Back to the Ocean, home to thee

Back through my blood, back through my veins.

Back to my heartbeat, all the same.

(By Abbi Spinner)

Repeat until the horns have been passed to all participants.

THE WORK-QUESTIONING THE SKULLS

QUESTIONING THE SKULLS WAS DEVELOPED BY IAN CORRIGAN. THE TEXT HAS BEEN MODIFIED BY CARRION MANN.

(Carrion)

Oh image of the skull, sacred house of Spirit; image of the Ancestors, immortal crown of life, death and rebirth.

Receive water from our Sacred Well, that you may be filled with the Spirit of the Elder Wise.

(Raven)

Receive flame from our Sacred Fire, that you may waken to the voice of the Wise Ones.

(Carrion)

O sacred skull, grant us vision to see the path that lie before us in this coming year.

(Raven)

O sacred skull, grant us the knowledge of the challenges we may face as we journey.

(Carrion)

O sacred skull, finally, grant us the wisdom to walk with skill were you have walked.

The candles have been lit, the Druid takes up the runes saying:

(Raven)

Spirits of the Elder Wise, behold your voice among the living. We set before you the image of the House of Spirit that you may join us in our Grove.

(Carrion)

Let these images be your eyes and mouth this night. By Dagda and by Morrighan and by the power of Holy Magic- May your sight be true and your voice clear to we who remember you.

(Raven)(Carrion)

Wise Ones! Reveal the Path that Lie Before Us!

(Carrion) *The divination is performed using the 9x9.*

THANKING THE BEINGS

(Raven) Dagda Mor, Great Good God, All Father of the Tuatha, May we have the courage to take of the cauldron of plenty as you share with us the secrets of rebirth. Oh Mighty Chieftain of Danu, we thank you this night for your love and guidance. **(an apple is offered upon the fire)**. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire. Dagda, we thank you!

All: Dagda, we thank you!

(Carrion) Great Morrighan, Mighty Phantom Queen of the Celts; Many are your guises. Oh Raven of Warrior's Dreams, we thank you for your strength and courage through the cycles of life. **(an apple is offered upon the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire. Morrighan, we thank you!

All: Morrighan, we thank you!

(Grollwynn) 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. **(an apple is offered upon the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire. Shining Ones, we thank you!

All: Shining Ones, we thank you!

(Eld Naðr) 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. **(an apple is offered upon the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire. Mighty Dead, we thank you!

All: Mighty Dead, we thank you!

(Isaura) Noble Spirits of land, sea and sky. Companions who aid and guide us in our journey. Noble Spirits, we thank you for sharing your knowledge and protection. **(an apple is offered upon the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire. Noble Spirits, we thank you!

All: Noble Spirits, we thank you!

(Carrion)

Wise Ones, ancient, skilled Ones, we thank you for the wisdom and guidance you have offered us. May you continue to teach and inspire our hearts and minds. **(an apple is offered upon the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once more by the hearth's fire. (Final token of olive oil is made upon the fire), Elder Wise, we thank you!

All: Elder Wise, we thank you!

(Grollwynn) Lady Brigid, Great Mother of song and music. We thank you for your blessings of inspiration and eloquence. **(an apple is offered upon the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire. Brigid, we thank you!

All: Brigid, we thank you!

CLOSING THE GATES

(Raven) Manannan MacLir, Weaver of Gray Mists; we thank you for your protection and guidance as we have walked between the worlds this night. **(an apple is offered upon the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire
All: Manannan, we thank you!

(Raven)

Manannan Mac Lir, Great Guardian of the Threshold, we now ask that you close the gates, warding the way between the worlds once more.

(Raven)

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

(Carrion)

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

(Grollwynn)

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)(Carrion)(Grollwynn)

Let the Gates be closed!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

(Isaura) Illuminating One of the Sky, may you continue to show us the way to courage and right. Bright Father of the Clear Sky, we thank you for the strength and healing warmth you have given us. **(an apple is offered upon the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire. Sky Father, we thank you!

All: Sky Father, we thank you!

(Eld Naðr) Ancient One of Ever Changing Beauty, may you continue to renew and sustain us. Primal Mother of the Tuatha, we thank you for all life. **(an apple is offered upon the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire. Earth Mother, we thank you!

All: Earth Mother, 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

(Grollwynn) Children of Earth and Sky, 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!

(Jim)

Musical Signal- *A drum beats 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 arise and overwhelm us.

Recessional Song

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

It's The Blood of the Ancients

That Runs Through Our Veins

And The Forms Pass

But The Circle of Life Remains

by Ellen Klaver & Charlie Murphy

Special Thanks To:

All who attended, participated and shared in our Samhain celebration.

***Ellen Klaver & Charlie Murphy for the chant
the Blood of the Ancients.***

***Stone Creed Grove, ADF for the chant
Gods and Dead and Mighty Sidhe***

***Liafal for the chant
The Gatekeeper Chant***

Ceisiwr Serith for the text for recreating the cosmos.

***Abbi Spinner for the chant
Back to the River***

***Emerald of Sassafras Grove ADF for the chant
The Well of Memory***

***The unknown author of the chant
Cauldron of Changes***

***Whispering Lake Grove, ADF
Samhain
2008***

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

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