

Whispering Lake Grove

ADF



Samhain

Nov 1, 2009
6:00 PM

PREPARATION

GROVE ATTUNEMENT (Grollwynn)

Joining our hands and closing our eyes, take a few deep cleansing breaths (*pause 4 count*). We now stand together, upon the land, beneath the sky, surrounded by the sea. The veil between this world and the Otherworld thins as we prepare to enter sacred time (*pause 4 count*).

Below us flows the primal waters from which we all derived and to which we will each return. They are the well of all memory and potential. Reaching far beneath you into the earth, through the soil and the bedrock to the waters below feel the cool, dark and chaotic energy of these waters. Draw upon the waters of life. Feel these waters as they enter your being, as they pool within the cauldron of your belly, within the cauldron of your heart and finally within the cauldron of your head. (*pause 8 count*)

As the primal waters pulse within you turn your attention skyward. For above us burns the primal fires, the power necessary to generate new life from death. Reaching far beyond the sky into the heavens, through the clouds and the stars and beyond the sun feel the warm, light and ordered energy of the heavens. Draw upon the fires of creation. Feel this fire as it illuminates the cauldron within your head, the cauldron within your heart and finally the cauldron of your belly. (*pause 8 count*)

The fires of the heavens ignite the waters of the earth within you and you become one with the cosmos. Feel the primal powers of fire and water as they surge through you. Your heart beats with the very pulse of the worlds (*pause 8 count*) Know that the fire and water that surges through our veins this day connects us to the land beneath our feet, to the sky above our heads and to the water that surrounds us. It connects us to the spirits of nature, to our Ancestors and to our Gods, linking this world forever to the Otherworld.

As we open our eyes let us all be one as we enter sacred space!

The participants will divide into two groups. One lead by Carrion and a second by Grollwynn. They will be in a single line as usual and enter through the doorway of the Nemeton. Morrighan and Marisha will cense and asperge each participant as they enter. Once inside the sanctuary the groups will separate and begin in different directions around the worship area. The participants will sing and process in a winding snake like fashion in and around the Nemeton until all participants have entered. Utilizing the chant Blood of the Ancients.

PROCESSION *(All in song)*

In song **(Carrion)(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.

Once all have entered and danced around the Nemeton. Carrion's group will begin singing We are A circle Moving, followed by Grollwynn's group and all motion will return to a circle around the hallows. Morrighan and Marisha will cense and asperge the worship area.

We are a circle moving

One with another, we are

Moving together, we are one.

We are a circle moving

One with another, we are

Moving together, we are one.

I am spirit, and I flow in you.

You are spirit and you flow in me.

(Words and music by Marae Price)

Repeat chant 3 times

CONSECRATION OF SPACE & PARTICIPANTS

Weaving the Druids Mist **(Raven)**

OPENING PRAYERS

(Isaura)

Musical Signal- *A bell rings 9 times.*

(Chris G.)

Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

Earth Mother & Sky Father

Our bodies are supported and sustained by the Mother of the Land; Created of her potential to which we shall return.

Our spirits are supported and sustained by the Father of the Clear Sky; Potential given life thru his spark.

Earth Mother and Sky Father, you cradle our Ancestors, preserves their memory and renew the lives of your children, know that we remember and honor your gifts.

An offering of white bread and incense 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 Inspiration

(Carrion)

Call to those that inspire your mind.

To the ones who images dwell within your recent memory.

Call to those that fill heart with joy, your words with song and your face with a smile.

To the ones that bring tears to your eyes and sadness to your heart.

Call to those that fill your spirit with laughter, your thoughts with creativity and your life with love.

May they inspire our work, our words and our actions this night!

An offering honey is made.

Beings of Inspiration, accept our offering!

All: Beings of Inspiration, be welcome among us!

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Purpose of the Ritual (Raven)

Tonight the living gather to welcome the Beloved Dead;

Honoring their memory and remembering their deeds.

We shall sing their praise and make our sacrifice;

Seeking their wisdom in return.

For the Feast of Samhain is upon us!

Let us honor death as we reflect upon the past,

celebrate life as we consider the present,

and look forward to renewal with anticipation and hope.

May all who gather be welcome among us!

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)

Weaver of the Gray Mists; Warder of the Way.

Join us at the center; walk with us this day.

(Carrion)

Rider of the Maned Waves; Otherworldly Guide.

Hold the gates before us as we stand in sacred time.

(Grollwynn)

Magician of the Shoreline merge your magic with my own.

Part your mist before us; Great King without a throne.

Irish whiskey is offered to Manannan

Manannan MacLir, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

(Grollwynn) 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*

Opening the Gates

(Raven)

Manannan, let us stand at the center of all worlds!

Sacred Fires of the heavens, burn within this place.

(Carrion)

Primal Waters of the earth, flow within this place.

(Grollwynn)

World Tree joining earth and sky, grow within this place.

(Raven)

Striking a sigil over the fire.

Let this fire carry our praise and sacrifice to the Shining Ones.

(Carrion)

Striking a sigil over the well.

Let this well carry our praise and sacrifice to the Mighty Dead.

(Grollwynn)

Striking a sigil upon the tree.

Let this tree connect the worlds as they become one in this place.

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!

All: Let the Gates Be Open!

(Raven)(Carrion)(Grollwynn)

We now stand at the center of all worlds!

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 as we honor our Ancestors this night!

Bird Seed is offered.

Noble One, accept our offering!

All: Noble Ones, be welcome among us!

(Chris G.)

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!

Incense is offered.

Shining and Chthonic Ones, accept our offering!

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

HONORING THE BEINGS OF THE OCCASION

Beloved Dead (Carrion)

Our hearts beat because you have lived...

Your success and failure our greatest teachers,

Imparting the wisdom of the ages.

Through your strength and perseverance we are...

Within our blood flows your memory...

Recording of all who have come before...

Ancestors of flesh and bone

Those whose wisdom flows within our veins.

Ancestors of Spirit,

Those whose deeds inspire our hearts and minds.

We honor you this night!

Beloved Dead, accept our offering!

Cider and Apples are offered.

Beloved Dead, be welcome among us!

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.

(Chris G.) 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.

Participants will be given an opportunity to introduce their ancestors to all who have assembled and then may place their remembrance on the Shrine and make any personal Ancestor offerings. Following each introduction the company will welcome the Ancestor. Personal praise offerings will also be given in this section.

In Song (Carrion)

Let us raise our voice in song to honor our Ancestors as we dance with them this night.

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

(Isaura)

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;
We honor the Ancestors, 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 the Mighty Dead!
As we prepare to make our final sacrifice.

The final sacrifice is prepared.

(Raven)

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

Ancestors, we honor you!

The final sacrifice is made.

Ancestors, accept our sacrifice!

All: Ancestors, accept our sacrifice!

THE OMEN

(Raven)

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) Ancestors your blessings upon us!

All: Ancestors your blessings upon us!

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

(Raven) Once again, Ancestors your blessings upon us!

All: Ancestors your blessings upon us!

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

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

All: Ancestors your blessings upon us!

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

HALLOWING OF THE WATERS

(Grollwynn) Behold the Waters of Life!

(Raven) Ancestors hear and bless us.

(Carrion) Beloved Dead of Blood and Spirit, hallow these waters of life.

(Grollwynn) *lifts the pitchers before the participants.*

(Grollwynn) Behold the Waters of Life!

All: Behold the Waters of Life!

AFFIRMATION OF THE BLESSINGS

(Grollwynn) Now Good folk, do you wish to receive the blessings of our honored guests? _____. Then we shall drink deep the blessings of the Ancestors!

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

(Grollwynn) 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.

THANKING THE BEINGS

(Carrion) 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!

(Chris G.) 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. **(a final token is offered)** 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!

(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. **(a final token is offered)** 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) Beings of Inspiration, we thank you for your sharing your gifts with us this night **(a final token is offered)**. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Beings of Inspiration, 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

(Chris G.) Great Mother of this Land and Father of the Clear Sky, may you continue to bring new life to this world **(a final is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

Earth Mother and Sky Father, we thank you!

All: Earth Mother and Sky Father, we thank you!

(Carrion) 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!

(Isaura)

Musical Signal- *A bell rings 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.*

*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 Change*

*Whispering Lake Grove, ADF
Samhain
2009*

*Ritual text written by
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(Unless otherwise credited)*

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