

Whispering Lake Grove A.D.F.



Yule

December 16, 2007
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 (Isaura)

Rider of the Maned Waves...
Protect us from the storms.
Guardian of the Threshold...
Guide us from all harm.
Magician of the Shoreline...
Bless us with your might.
Mist Weaver,
May you walk with us this night!

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

(Eld Naðr) *An offering is made to Manannan.*

Manannan, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

PROCESSION

In Song (Carrion)

*The Waters flow around us
The Fires burn within us
Standing tall we gather at the center of the world.
Upon the Earth our mother
We worship here together
All as one we gather at the center of the world.*

(Words and Music by Emerald)

Repeat until all participants have entered the worship area.

OPENING PRAYERS

(Raven)

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

Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

Earth Mother (Isaura)

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 (Grollwynn)

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!
(Isaura)(Grollwynn) 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 (Carrion)

We call upon the Skald of Valhalla

Most eloquent God of poetry and song

And Herald of Odin's Great Hall

Oh, Welcomer of the Einherjar

Bless us with your inspiration and eloquence this night!

An offering of honey is placed in the offering bowl for Bragi.

Bragi, accept our offering!

All: Bragi, All Hail and Welcome!

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE (Raven)

Yule was the time our Ancestors gathered to strengthen the bonds of fidelity by drinking, toasting and boasting the deeds of the past year. They raised their horns to those who came before and to the Gods that blessed them.

As our Ancestors once did, so too do we gather this night in fidelity one with another. We gather to strengthen the bonds of kinship and friendship among us; to toast, boast and make oaths to the Kindred and to each other that the blessings of health, wealth and wisdom might be ours.

Children of the Earth and Sky, know this night that Odin, the One-Eyed Wanderer and Decider of the Fates of Humankind; the one who forges of the chosen of the Einherjar; the Winner, Keeper and Giver of the Mead of Poetry will walk once more among us.

May all who gather this night 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 chaos!

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 chaos;

Etins of the mountains and those of fire and ice.

Lurkers at the edge of the sacred 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!

Purification of Participants & Space

*The aspersion bowl is filled by **Isaura**, from the Well and the censor is kindled from the Fire by **Grollwynn** 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 and time 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 “The Yule Log”

Outside the rain drives down, drives down, but we are dry and warm.

The winter wind blows cold, blows cold, but we are safe from harm.

*Protection from the storm have we, and shelter from the night,
and so we hail the holy hearth, and the Yule Log’s living light!*

The longest night is come, is come, the year is at an end.

May all ill-luck be gone, be gone, all broken fortunes mend.

*Midwinter’s fire burns every bane, illuminates the night,
and so we hail the holy hearth, and the Yule Log’s living light!*

See how the sacred fire, the fire is hidden in the wood.

Just so the ills we see, we see, may hold a spark of good.

From winter shall the spring be born, day from the womb of night,

and so we hail the holy hearth, and the Yule Log’s living light!

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Establishing Sacred Time (Raven)

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)(Grollwynn)

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 the worlds converge upon this place.

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

Heimdall, merge now your magick with ours!

(Raven)

See the flame leaping forth from the fire.

(Carrion)

See the mist arising from the well,

(Raven & Carrion)

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.

(Raven & Carrion) Striking the hammer sign upon the tree

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

By the land before us!

(Raven & Carrion)

By the seas about us!

(Raven & Carrion)

By the sky above us!

(Raven & Carrion)

Let the Gates Be Open!

GENERAL OFFERINGS TO AND INVOCATION OF THE SPIRITS

(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. 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!

(Eld Naðr) Seed is offered.

Noble Ones, accept our offering!

All: Noble Ones, All Hail and Welcome!

(Raven)

Wise Ones of the Nine Worlds!

Beloved Dead of blood and spirit

Ancestors of flesh and bone

Alfar and Disir, be welcome among us!

(Eld Naðr) Beer & Bread is offered to the Ancestors.

Mighty Dead, accept our offering!

All: Mighty Dead, All Hail and Welcome!

(Isaura)

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!

(Eld Naðr) Alcohol is offered.

Shining Ones, accept our offering!

All: Shining Ones, All Hail and Welcome!

(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*

HONORING THE DEITIES OF THE RITE

Song for Odin Words and music by Karl Donaldson

(Grollwynn & Carrion)

I sing of the tales of The Wanderer

The rider of Yggdrasil

He gave up an eye into Mimir's Well

Where deeply, he drank his fill.

For nine long nights, Old Harr, hung he

In search of the spoken spell;

The Runes that he found drew sounds for man

And down, from The Tree, he fell.

A snake, he slid through Gunnlod's court;

The Mead of Poetry sought;

Three sips, and he fled as eagle's wings;

By Suttung, was never caught.

Two sticks on a beach Harbard had found;

*His brothers heard his call;
He gave his own breath and his blood to the wood
And told them of his hall:*

*“Valhalla holds the Einherjar
“Who’ll fight on Vigrids plain.”
As Fenrir sinks his fangs to the bone
The life of Odin will wane.*

*Fear not, my kin, of the Ragnarok
For Fimbulvyr truly has won;
He saw his own death at the end of time*

And whispered this to his son.

Invocation to Odin (Carrion)

Hail the High One...
Hanged God of the Heavens!

First Father of the Folk...
Furious Forger of Fate.

Mighty Magician of the Dead...
Many are the Masks of the Mad One.

Wisdom whirls upon the wind...
In the wake of the Wanderer.

Odin, our hall and hospitality are yours.

Alcohol is offered to Odin.

Odin, accept our offering!

All: Odin, All Hail and Welcome!

PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS

(Carrion) At this time you may bring forth your offerings of praise to Odin and the season. ***(Once all personal praise offerings have been made to the Deity of the Occasion the Group will offer praise)***

Group Praise Offering/Seasonal Enactment (Raven)

“A Norse Symbol”

Ancestors

Deities

Final Round

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

(Carrion)

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;
We honor Odin, as he walks among us.
Through communication with the Otherworld;
We receive his guidance, inspiration and insight.
Tonight we call out to our honored guest,
As we prepare to make our final sacrifice.

The final sacrifice is prepared. (Eld Naðr)

(Carrion)

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

We have sung his 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.

Odin, we honor you.

The final sacrifice is made.

Odin, accept our sacrifice!

All: Odin, accept our sacrifice!

Participants chant the following, sending their energies through the gates.

(Grollwynn)

Let us raise our voices in song as Odin reveals his will.

In song

Through time and tide

Through waters wide

By blood and bone

By stock and stone

By breath and breeze

By fire that frees

(Words by Diana Paxson)

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.

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) Odin, your blessings upon us!

All: Odin, your blessings upon us!

(Carrion) We gather with you between Earth and Sky. We are

proud to call ourselves your people.

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

All: Odin, your blessings upon us!

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

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

All: Odin, 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) Odin, Mighty All-Father of the Aesir, hallow these Waters of Life

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

(Grollwynn) Behold the Waters of Life!

All: Behold the Waters of Life!

AFFIRMATION OF THE BLESSINGS

(Raven) Children of Earth and Sky, do you wish to receive the blessings Odin has for us this night? _____. Then we shall drink deep his blessings!

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 Odin let us raise our voices in song.

All in Song

Here we come a-wassailing among the leaves so green,

Here we go a-wandering, so fair to be seen!

Love and joy come to you, and to you good wassail, too,
All Gods bless you and send you a happy New Year,
All Gods send you a happy New Year!

Repeat until the horns have been passed to all participants.

THANKING THE BEINGS

(Carrion) Odin, Mighty All-Father and One-Eyed Wanderer, we thank you for the wisdom 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: Odin, we thank you!

(Grollwynn) Mighty Kindred of land, sea and sky, Eldest and Brightest of the Nine Worlds. Aesir and Vanir; Alfir and Disir and Alfs, House Ghost and Wights. We thank you for the guidance, wisdom 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!

(Carrion) Bragi, Great Skald of the Halls of Valhalla. God of Poetry and Song. We thank you for the inspiration and eloquence 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: Bragi, 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.

(Raven & Carrion) *Striking the hammer sign upon the tree*

Let the tree, pathway between Earth & Sky, become but wood.

By the land before us!

(Raven & Carrion)

By the seas about us!

(Raven & Carrion)

By the sky above us!

(Raven & Carrion)

Let the Gates be closed!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

(Grollwynn) 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!

(Isaura) 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!

(Raven) 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

(Grollwynn) 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!

(Raven)

(Raven) 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 Yule celebration.

Stone Creed Grove, ADF for the chants
The Gatekeeper Chant

Emerald of Sassafras Grove for the chant
The Waters

Pandora for the chant
The Verticle Axis Chant

Ceisiwr Serith for the text for recreating the cosmos.

Diana L. Paxson for the chants
The Yule Log & Time and Tide

Sable for the chant
Walk With Wisdom

Karl Donaldson for the words and music for
The Odin Song

***Whispering Lake Grove
Yule Ritual
2007***

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

Raven & Carrion Mann

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