

Whispering Lake Grove ADF



Yule

December 21, 2008
7:00 PM

PREPARATION

GROVE ATTUNEMENT (Eld Naðr)

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 (Grollwynn)

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.

An offering is made to Manannan (Grollwynn & Carrion).

Manannan, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

PROCESSION

In Song (Carrion)

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)

Repeat until all participants have entered the worship area in darkness

OPENING PRAYERS

(Raven)

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

Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

Earth Mother (Isaura) lighting a candle of the sun.

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) lighting a candle of the sun.

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)(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 (Carrion)

lighting a candle of the sun.

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
Aid as we journey through the darkness.
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!

Invocation to the Elder Wise (Raven)

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE (Raven)

Darkness encompasses Midgard.
Winter's cold weighs heavy upon our hearts and minds.
Death looms within the frozen shadows,
And chaos threatens to overwhelm us!

Ragnarok's return is uncertain.
Our world lies seemly lifeless.
Deep beneath the ice and snow.
All hope begins to fade...

Will the wheel turn once more?
Will the light and warmth return?
Will new life break its icy chains?
Will Sunna walk once more among us?

A spark yet flickers within the darkness.

All is not yet lost...

Tonight we weave our wyrd as one...
In strength, perseverance and courage we shall face the darkness.

We shall call forth Sunna from her slumber...
We shall drive chaos from our halls...
And turn the wheel once more toward the warmth and light!

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)* **(Eld Naðr)**

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 **Carrion**.*

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:

(Carrion)

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

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

In Song Repeat 3X

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)

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)(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) lighting a candle of the sun.

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 and Grollwynn)

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 and Grollwynn)

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.

(Grollwynn) 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

(Carrion)

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!

(Isaura) lighting a candle for the returning light.

Bright and shining messengers to the Otherworld
Protectors of this sacred ground.

Light Alfs, House Ghosts and Wights, aid us as we journey through the darkness!

Join us, as we await the lights return!

(Eld Naðr) Seed is offered.

Noble Ones, accept our offering!

All: Noble Ones, All Hail and Welcome!

(Grollwynn) lighting a candle for the returning light.

Wise Ones of the Nine Worlds!

Beloved Dead of blood and spirit

Ancestors of flesh and bone

Alfar and Disir, aid us as we journey through the darkness!

Join us, as we await the lights return!

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

Mighty Dead, accept our offering!

All: Mighty Dead, All Hail and Welcome!

(Eld Naðr) lighting a candle for the returning light.

Eldest and Brightest of Asgard!

Deities of Might and Magic

Bringers of life, death and rebirth.

Mighty Aesir and Bountiful Vanir

Shining and Chthonic Ones, aid us as we journey through the darkness!

Join us, as we await the lights return!

(Eld Naðr) Alcohol is offered.

Shining and Chthonic Ones, accept our offering!

All: Shining and Chthonic Ones, All Hail and Welcome!

HONORING THE DEITIES OF THE RITE

lighting the center candle of the sun.

Invocation to Sunna

All:

Hail to the Sun!

Hail to her rising,

Hail to the bright and shining Day!

Hail to her setting,

Hail to her light along our way!

(Carrion)

Early in the morning

The foaming waves are grey and cold.

At the beginning of the story

I stand and watch the dawn unfold.

See her dancing on the water

On a path of shining gold,

Like a kindled fire in winter,

A brilliant glory to behold!

All:

Hail to the Sun!

Hail to her rising,

Hail to the bright and shining Day!

Hail to her setting,

Hail to her light along our way!

(Carrion)

Through the day she watches

As she travels in the skies.

Stretching to the far horizons,

Fair the world below her lies.

Warmth she gives to all earth's creatures,

Light to all that lives and dies.

*Bright her coming and her going,
How bright the sunshine in our eyes!*

All:

*Hail to the Sun!
Hail to her rising,
Hail to the bright and shining Day!
Hail to her setting,
Hail to her light along our way!*

© *Alwynne (aka Hilla Hamasdottir)*

Invocation to Sunna

(Raven)

All Hail, The Rider of the horse drawn Sun Wagon!

(Carrion)

For it is your hands that have shaped the Sun.

(Raven)

All Hail, The Gleaming One who is shining in might!

(Carrion)

For it is your light that blesses the dying.

(Raven)

All Hail, The Glorious Bride of the Heavens!

(Carrion)

For you are the foe of all who travel dark paths wishing ill will.

(Raven)

All Hail, The Great Goddess of Life and Light!

(Carrion)

For on Yule have returned to us.

*An offering of golden colored beer, honey and clarified butter
is made.*

(Raven)

Sunna, accept our offering!

All: Sunna, All Hail and Welcome!

PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS

(Carrion) At this time you may bring forth your offerings of praise to Sunna 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 (Carrion)

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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(Raven)

Children of Earth and Sky, tonight we have called forth the light and warmth of Sunna. We honor her and offer sacrifice that see may once more walk among us. We anticipate her returning power and await its warmth and light.

(Grollwynn)

As we step from the darkness and into the light this night,
What are your hopes for the new year?
What are your hopes for the suns return?

(Carrion) *Lighting a candle from the hearth's fire.*

We kindle this sacred flame from our hearth fire that its light may be a remembrance of Sunna's protection and warming light for each hearth and home. May the magic of this flame turn the wheel and light our world!

(Carrion will begin passing the flame among the participants asking each what Sunna's return means to them. Each participant will be given an opportunity to honor Sunna with what she means to them as their flame is lit).

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

(Raven)

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;
We honor Sunna, as she walks among us.
Through communication with the Otherworld;
We receive her 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)

(Eld Naðr)

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

We have sung her 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.

Sunna, we honor you.

The final sacrifice is made.

Sunna, accept our sacrifice!

All: Sunna, accept our sacrifice!

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

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) Sunna, your blessings upon us!

All: Sunna, your blessings upon us!

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

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

All: Sunna, your blessings upon us!

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

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

All: Sunna, 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) Sunna, Radiant Goddess of the Returning Warmth and Light, 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

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

The Waters are passed (Eld Naðr & 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 Sunna 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) Sunna, Great Goddess of the Returning Light, we thank you for the hope 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: Sunna, 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!

(Raven) Elder Wise, Ancient Wise Ones before us, we thank you for the wisdom, inspiration and guidance you offer us. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Elder Wise, 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.

(Grollwynn) 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 & Carrion)

Let the Gates be closed!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

(Eld Nathr) 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!

(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

(Eld Naðr) 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) 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.

Deck the Halls

(Traditional English carol, the tune is originally Welsh)

Deck the halls with boughs of holly, Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Tis the season to be jolly, Fa la la la la, la la la la

Don we now are gay apparel, Fa la la, la la la, la la la

Troll the ancient Yuletide carol, Fa la la la la, la la la la

See the blazing Yule before us, Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Strike the harp and join the chorus, Fa la la la la, la la la la

Follow me in merry measure, Fa la la, la la la, la la la

While I tell of Yuletide treasure, Fa la la la la, la la la la

Fast a way the old year passes, Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Hall the new, ye lad and lasses, Fa la la la la, la la la la

Sing we joyous all together, Fa la la, la la la, la la la

Heedless of the wind and weather, Fa la la la la, la la la la

Special Thanks To:

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

*Stone Creed Grove, ADF for the chants
The Gatekeeper Chant*

*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*

*Alwynne (aka Hilla Hamasdottir)
Hail to the Sun*

***Whispering Lake Grove
Yule Ritual
2008***

*Ritual text written by
(Unless otherwise credited)*

Raven & Carrion Mann

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