

Whispering Lake Grove, ADF

Presents



Celebrate the Spring Equinox

March 22, 2020

OPENING PRAYERS

Participants are encouraged to honor the spirits of their hearth and home. Those beings that are guardians and guides of the place in which you live. Call to them, honor them for their protection and blessings they provide and invite them to join you as you celebrate the spring equinox. Make an offering you feel would be appropriate. You may also choose to honor and make offering to a personal patron(s) and invite them to join in the celebration. The following text is optional for non-Whispering Lake Grove members.

HONORING THE GROVE PATRON

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!

An offering is made to Manannan.

Manannan, Mist Weaver, accept our offering!

Attunement

Joining our hearts and minds, while closing our eyes, take a few deep cleansing breaths (pause 4). We now stand together in Midgard, upon the land, beneath the sky, surrounded by the sea as we prepare to stand at the center of all worlds. (pause).

Below us flows the primal waters, cold, dark and chaotic; filled with the potential of all life. Reaching far beneath you into the earth, draw upon the waters of life. Feel these waters rise within you, pooling within your belly, rising higher, they pool within your heart and finally within your head. (pause).

Above us burns the primal fires, warm, light and ordered; filled with the spark of all life. Reaching far beyond the sky into the heavens, draw upon the power that sparks all creation. Feel this power enter your being, igniting the fire in your head, warming the cauldron of your heart and finally illuminating your spirit. (pause)

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 all worlds (pause)

We are reminded that we share our world with the Spirits of Nature, that our Ancestors dwell in the Halls of the Gods. We are all cradled in the branches of the Yggdrasil. The fire and water that flows through our veins sustains the worlds, the realms and the Kindred.

As we open our eyes let us be one in this place, prepared for our work, let us now recreate the cosmos together!

The waters support and surround us,
Sacred waters fill this well with your healing magic!
(an offering is made to the well)

The land extends about us,
Sacred tree resonate the words spoken here throughout the worlds!
(the tree is asperged and sensed)

The sky stretches above us,
Sacred fire burn with the power of transformation!
(an offering is made to the fire)

For at this center burns a living flame,

All:

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, honor and worship to the holy ones.

OUTDWELLERS

Within each of us dwell forces that bring chaos into our lives, those influences that pollute our hearts and minds. *(pause in reflection)*

These powers also dwell within the worlds, realms and among the Kindred. They threaten our world, our work and our lives.

Let us remember the forces and Beings that stand against the Gods and humankind.

Let us remember the strife that they bring, while recognizing their power, influence and purpose in the cosmos. *(pause)*

With this token *(a token is held before the fire, well and tree. This token should be sometime offered to no other being in the ritual. Dark offerings in the form of burnt bread, toast, bannocks, dark alcohol are most appropriate)* may we seek to end our unhealthy relationships with these forces.

(A token is laid beyond the ritual space in silence)
May we be free of the chaos that threatens to overwhelm us!

Let it be so!

Participants should take water from their wells and incense lit from the sacred fire and cense and asperge their shrine, ritual area and person.

Musical Signal: A hammer strikes and anvil 3X3 times or any musical signal you choose. You can use anything that makes a sound. Could be as simple as a potlid and a spoon or knocking with a staff on the floor, if you don't have a hammar/avil, drum, singing bowl, whistle etc.

OPENING BLESSINGS

Honoring the Earth Mother

Primal Mother of the Earth and Father of the Clear Sky,
Forever, Mother and Father of all that was, of all that is and all
that will be. Your children come before you in love and respect
and ask that you uphold and bless our gathering!

An offering of bread and incense is made.

Earth Mother and Sky Father accept our offering!

Invocation for Bardic Inspiration

Heralds of the Hero's Hall
Skalds of the Saga's Stage
Bards of the Boldest and Brave
Gift us with your grace.
Pour down your eloquence
Insight our words
Inspire our songs
Light the fire in the head!

An offering of honey is made.

Beings of Inspiration accept our offering!

PURPOSE AND PRECEDENT

Welcome Children of the Earth and Sky!

The spring equinox was the time our Ancestors gathered to celebrate
the returning warmth and light of the sun. For the Ancients the
sights and sounds of Spring's return guaranteed the end of the long
dark.

As our Ancestors once did, so too do we gather this night one with
another to celebrate the returning warmth and light of the sun and to
welcome the rebirth of the natural world around us.

Tonight, we gather in spirit, united in heart, mind and work to honor
the Gods and Spirits and gain their favor by keeping the ancient
bargain between us.

Together we shall worship and honor Lord Freyer, Lady Freya and
Mighty Thor that they may bring healing to the spirits of this world,
to folk and to the land. We shall sing their praise and make our
sacrifice, seeking their blessings in return.

May all who gather this eve be welcome among us!

INVOCATION TO THE GATEKEEPER

Oh, Ancient Ones of Might and Magic,
We call to Eldest and Wisest of the Worlds,
We seek a Priest of the Sacred Fire...
To aid us in our work...
To join their magic with our own...
And open the way between the worlds.

An offering is made to the Gatekeeper

Fire Priest accept our offering!

OPENING THE GATES

Fire Priest; let us stand at the center of all worlds!
Sacred Fires ignite the waters of the earth.
Primal Waters feed the order of the cosmos.
World Tree join the heavens with the earth.

Striking a sigil over the fire.

Let these flames carry our praise and sacrifice to the Shining Ones.

Striking a sigil over the well.

Let these waters carry our praise and sacrifice to the Mighty Dead.

Striking a sigil upon the tree.

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

By the land before us!

By the seas about us!

By the sky above us!

Let the Gates Be Open!

We now stand at the center of all worlds!

KINDRED OFFERINGS

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

(can be spoken or sung)

Let our voices arise on the fire,

Let our voices resound in the deep,

Let the Kindred accept what we offer,

As we honor the old ways we keep.

We call to the Kindred of all the Worlds!
Noble, Mighty and Shining Ones of land, sea and sky.
Beloved allies, guides and protectors.
Join us as we celebrate Spring's return.
Stand with us as we honor the Gods of the occasion.
An offering is made to the Kindred.
Mighty Kindred accept our offering!

KEY OFFERINGS

Invitation to Thor

Hail, Ruddy Son of Earth and Sky!
For his might defends all new life!

Hail, Wielder of Great Mjollner!
For its' strike breaks their icy grip!

Hail, Powerful Champion of Asgard!
For his strength has seen us through the long dark!

Hail, Thundering God of Spring's Protection
For tonight we reach the winter's end!

Hail, Thor!
An offering is made to Thor.
Thor accept our offering!

Invitation to Freyr & Freya

We call to the Ruler of the Rain and Sun...
And to the Radiant Bride of Asgard.

We seek the Mistress of Mystery and Magic...
And the Mighty Bringer of Peace and Plenty

Great Lord and Lady of the Van.
Gather with us at the Gates this night...

We welcome winters end...
Walk with us as the wheel turns once more

Bring forth fertility to this frozen land...
Free the folk from the darkness!
An offering is made to Freyr & Freya.
Freyr & Freya accept our offering!

PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS

Take the opportunity to make personal offerings of praise.

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

Through our praise, love and sacrifice,
We honor the Mighty Thor and Lord & Lady, Freya & Freyr. It is through our work and sacrifice that we receive their guidance, wisdom and blessings. Tonight, we call out once more from the center of all worlds to our honored guests that they may heal our world, bless our work and our lives, as we prepare to make our sacrifice.

Make a final sacrifice/give a gift to the Beings of the Occasion.

THE OMEN

The omen is taken in a symbol set of the participants choosing and if you are without a symbol set, sit in meditation to attempt to obtain an answer.

BLESSING OF THE WATERS

The following words will be spoken over a cup.

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.

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

Shining Ones your blessings upon us!
Thor, Freya and Freyr give us the waters!

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

Once again, Shining Ones your blessings upon us!
Thor, Freya and Freyr give us the waters!

We have brought our offerings.
We have made our sacrifice.

One last time, Shining Ones your blessings upon us!
Thor, Freya and Freyr give us the waters!

*The cup is lifted saluting the fire, well and
tree.*

HALLOWING OF THE WATERS

Behold the Waters of Life!
Shining Ones hear and bless us.
Great Goddess of Life and Light, hallow these Waters of Life.
The cup is lifted before your shrine.
Behold the Waters of Life!

AFFIRMATION OF THE BLESSINGS

*Ask yourself, "do you wish to receive the blessings of Thor, Freya
& Freyr? If the answer is yes, drink deep their blessings. If the
answer is no, thank the powers and end the ritual, kissing the cup
and pouring the blessings in offering.*

*Following drinking the blessing, either speak or sing the following:
"Blessings of the Holy Ones".*

Blessing of the Waters

The Blessings of the Holy Ones

Be on me and mine

My blessings on all beings

With peace on the and thyne.

The fire, the well, the sacred tree

Flow and flame and grow in me.

By Ian Corrigan

WORK (OPTIONAL)

*If you have work that you would like to do in the form of
protection, calling for a special blessing or other magic, do it here
and ask for help from the patrons of the ritual.*

THANKING THE BEINGS

Thor, Freyr and Freya, we thank you for the blessings you have
shared with land and all those who gather. May you continue to
bring warmth and light to our world. May there be peace between us
until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.
Thor, Freyr and Freya, we thank you!

Mighty Kindred of land, sea and sky, Eldest and Brightest of the
Worlds. We thank you for the guidance, wisdom and blessings you
have shared with us. May there be peace between us until we meet
once again by the hearth's fire.
Kindred, we thank you!

Beings of Inspiration, we thank you for your blessings of inspiration and eloquence. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.
Beings of Inspiration, we thank you!

Closing the Gates

Mighty Priest of the Sacred Fire, we thank you for tending our fire and warding the way between the worlds with us. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.
Fire Priest, we thank you!

Ancient Priest of the Sacred Fire, we now ask that you aid us in closing the gates, warding the way between the worlds once more. Let the fire burning towards the heavens once more become, but flames.
Let the well whose depths reach the Underworld once more Become, but water.
Let the tree, pathway between Earth & Sky, become, but wood.
By the land before us!
By the seas about us!
By the sky above us!
Let the Gates be closed!

Earth Mother and Sky Father, we thank you for the blessings of fertility you have shared with us. May you continue to support and sustain us, upholding and blessing our work and world. May there be peace between us always.
Earth Mother and Sky Father, we thank you!

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

Once more take a few deep cleansing breaths as we reaffirm our center (*pause*). We stand together at the center of all worlds, upon the land, beneath the sky, surrounded by the sea. We span the worlds, connecting earth and sky and the Kindred as one (*pause*).

Remember that below us flows the primal waters filled with the potential of all life. It is these waters that surge through your very being. (*pause*)

Remember that above us burns the primal fires filled with the spark of all life. It is these powers that have illuminated the waters that surge through you. (*pause*)

The primal powers of fire and water unite within us bringing new life and balance to our beings. Our hearts beat with the very pulse of all worlds (*pause*)

Remember that we share these worlds with the Spirits of Nature, with the Ancestors and with the Gods. As they bless us, offer their wisdom and guidance let us forever remember the old bargain.

Remember the powers of earth and sky, the sacred fire and waters, that flow within you... take what you need to maintain balance and release back to the earth and sky all that has gone unused. Know that the fire and water that flows from us helps to sustain the worlds, the realms and the Kindred as we conclude our worship.

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

Musical Signal- *A hammer strikes and anvil 3X3 or other signal.*

Remember to thank all of your personal beings invited at the beginning of the work and your personal spirits of hearth and home.

Manannan, we thank you for aiding us in our work, join us at our hearth and walking with us as we journey upon our paths. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us always. Manannan, we thank you!

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.

This right has ended...happy Spring Equinox everyone!

Remember to Stay Home & Save Lives!

Spring Equinox 2020

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

Rev. Carrion Mann

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