

WHISPERING LAKE GROVE, ADF

Presents



Midsummer

June 24, 2012

6:00PM

PREPARATION

Immediately following set up and prior to the ritual the sacred fire is kindled and the waters are poured into the well. Both the fire and water are blessed and a pre-omen is taken.

Ritual Briefing (Raven)

Musical Signal- 3X3 drum beats (Jim)

Invocation to Manannan (Grollwynn)

Mighty Lord of the Crossroads
Rider of the Maned Waves
And Son of the Sea

Beloved Foster-Father of the Many Skilled One
Advisor of the Tuatha De Dannan
And King without a Throne

Through your guidance and protection, we prosper.
Manannan Mac Lir, Patron and Friend, walk with us once more!
An offering of Irish Whiskey is made.
Manannan, accept our offering!
All: Manannan, accept our offering!

PROCESSION

Processional Chant (Grollwynn)

In Song
Come we now as a people
To gather at the sacred well
Come we now as a people
To gather in the warmth and the light of the flame
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The Story of Lugh's arrival to Tara Part 1 (Raven)

The procession is halted at the entrance to the Nemeton as all in attendance here the retelling of Lugh's arrival to the gates of Tara. Once the story is ended the procession continues into the ritual area.

Processional chant continues following the story until all have entered the nemeton.

GROVE ATTUNEMENT (Carrion)

Closing your eyes, take a few deep, cleansing breaths.
As you breathe, lay aside the worries, troubles, and woes of the mundane world. *(pause 4 count)*

Return with me to the beginning of the cosmos, a time when there was but the fire of the Sky and the waters of the Earth and between them lay only vast emptiness. *(pause 4 count)*

Today we exist together between the waters of the Earth and the fire of the Sky, in the very place where all things begin and end and the center of all is created.

Within this vast emptiness the illuminating power of the first fire and the creative potential of the waters begin to draw toward each other, converging upon the center. The waters flow around you, cradle you and cleanse you. Reach out to this primal power and begin to draw these waters into your being. This power is cool, dark and chaotic, filled with the potential of all life.

The illuminating radiance of the fire glows around you, warms you and purifies you. Reach out to the primal power draw it into your being. This power is warm, light and ordered, filled with the spark of all life.

The fire and water converge around you and within you. The fire of the Sky ignites the waters of the Earth, enlivening your spirit and bringing forth life anew around you.

You turn your attention outward from the center to see the sacred tree that grows within the Middle realm before you its roots reaching deep within the Earth to the Underworld and branches extending through the Sky and into the Heavens; connecting all realms.

Feel the land that extends below you, forming a firm foundation beneath your feet. See the sky stretches above you. Feel the sea that supports and surrounds you.

The union of fire and water is the life force. It is the power and potential that creates and renews the cosmos. It connects the worlds, the realms, and the Kindred all as it flows through each of us.

Join your hands, your hearts, and your minds with those around you. Feel the power and potential that flows through us. The sacred waters flow within us. The sacred fire burns within us and the sacred tree grows within us.

As we open our eyes, know that we are one with the cosmos. Let us raise our voices in song as we hallow the center of the worlds.

Fire, Well & Tree (chant) (Grollwynn)

All in song

***By Fire and by Water, between the Earth and Sky
We stand like the World-Tree rooted, deep, crowned high.***

***By Fire and by Water, between the Earth and Sky
We stand like the World-Tree rooted, deep, crowned high.***

*Come we now to the Well, the eye and the mouth of Earth,
Come we now to the Well, and silver we bring.
Come we now to the Well, the waters of rebirth
Come we now to the Well, together we sing.
An offering of silver is made to the well.*

CHORUS

*We will kindle a Fire, Bless all, and with harm to none,
We will kindle a Fire, and offering pour,
We will kindle a Fire, a light 'neath the Moon and Sun,
We will kindle a Fire, our spirits will soar.
An offering of incense is made to the fire.*

CHORUS

*Gather we at the Tree, the root & the crown of all
Gather we at the Tree, below & above,
Gather we at the Tree, together we make our call,
Gather we at the Tree, In wisdom and love.
The tree is sensed and asperged.*

CHORUS

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(Carrion) Let us honor the Earth Mother and Sky Father.

OPENING BLESSING

Honoring the Earth Mother & Sky Father

(Isaura) *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!

(Jim) *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!

(Isaura)(Jim)

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!

(Isaura)(Jim) *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 accept our offering!

(Carrion) Let us call upon inspiration to enliven our words and bring eloquence to our work!

Invocation for Bardic Inspiration (Morrighan)

A Hymn to Bridget

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O Bridget, our heart, o brightest Queen; cast your blessings unto us.

We are your children, and you are our mother; so hearken unto us.

You are the cauldron, now in our grove; Wise Woman inspire us.

O fire of love, o fire of life; please Bridget, come to us!

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

Lady Brighid inspire us,

Brighid, accept our offering!

All: Brighid, accept our offering!

PURIFICATION

WEAVING THE DRUIDS MIST (Artos)

CONSECRATION OF SPACE & PARTICIPANTS

(Grollwynn)

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.

The ritual participants and space will be censed an asperged by Maggie and Ky during this chant.

PURPOSE AND PRECEDENT (Carrion)

Today, we gather upon this land, beneath the sky, surrounded by the sea to keep the Feast of Midsummer. We will call our allies among the Spirits to join us; to stand with us beneath the sun at height of its power, as we honor Lugh Lamfadha, High King of the Tuatha, seeking his blessing in return. May all who gather this night be welcome among us!

(Carrion) Let us prepare to stand at the center of all worlds.

OPENING THE GATES

(Raven)

Dagda Mor, your might, and magic wards the threshold.

Great Good God, in your protection we shall stand at the center of all worlds.

Mighty Druid of the Tuatha, as the world of man and Sidhe converge within this place may you open the mounds before us.

Irish whiskey is offered.

Dagda Mor accept our offering!

All: Dagda Mor accept our offering!

(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*

Opening the Gates

(Raven)

An Dagda, let us stand at the center of all worlds!

Sacred Fires ignite the waters of the earth.

(Carrion)

Primal Waters feed the order of the cosmos.

(Grollwynn)

World Tree join the heavens with the earth.

(Raven)

Striking a sigil over the fire.

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

(Carrion)

Striking a sigil over the well.

Let these waters 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)

An Dagda, we now stand at the center of all worlds!

KINDRED OFFERINGS

(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.

(Jim)

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.

Mighty Sidhe, be welcome among us!

Seed is offered.

Nature Spirits accept our offering!

All: Nature Spirits accept our offering!

(Grollwynn)

Wise Ones of the Realm Below!

Beloved Dead of blood and spirit; Ancestors of flesh and bone

Great Cu Chulainn, Maeve and Finn

Heros of myth and legend

Mighty Ones be welcome among us!

Alcohol & Bread is offered.

Ancestors accept our offering!

All: Ancestors accept our offering!

(Isaura)

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 Ones be welcome among us!

Oil is offered.

Shining and Chthonic Ones accept our offering!

All: Shining and Chthonic Ones accept our offering!

(Grollwynn)

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.

Repeat 3x

(Carrion)

We have called 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 Midsummer.

Stand with us as we honor Lugh this night.

Mighty Kindred accept our offering!

All: Mighty Kindred accept our offering!

KEY OFFERING

The Story of Lugh's Kingship Part 2 (Raven)

Invocation to Lugh (Carrion & All)

We now call as one people to the Patron the Rite, to our honored guest. Lugh hear and bless us! We call to the small boy who found guidance and protection within a cloak of mist, who grew to maturity in the Isles of the Sea. We call to...Lugh, Champion of Order and Defeater of Chaos. **All:** We call to...

Each participant has been given a title of Lugh. Following Carrion beginning the invocation each participant will call out to Lugh using the title they have been given. When the last person has made their call Carrion will complete the invocation and make the offering.

An offering of wheat bread & honey is made.

At the height of sun's power, we call forth the High King, Lugh Lamfadha!

Lugh of the Long Arm accept our offering!

Hail the High King!

All: Hail the High King!

PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS

(Grollwynn) At this time you may bring forth your offerings of praise to Lugh.

FINAL SACRIFICE

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE (Grollwynn)

Through our praise, love and sacrifice,

We honor Lugh Lamfadha as he walks among us.

Through communication with the Otherworld,

We receive his guidance, inspiration, and insight.

Tonight, we call out from the crossroads to our guest of honor!

As we prepare to make our final sacrifice.

The final sacrifice is prepared.

FINAL SACRIFICE (All)

A slow drumbeat begins. Other participants will take up shakers, and other instruments or participate in dancing and intoning to raise magical energy for the Beings of the Occasion. The Seer will collect and direct the energy through the gate and communicate with the being of the occasion. He/she will take an omen by drawing either Nauthiz, representing the need to continue or Gebo represent our gift for a gift and the acceptance of our sacrifice. The assembled company will raise energy until the final sacrifice has been accepted. The Seer will then conclude the energy raising with "Our Sacrifice has been Accepted" followed by **Carrion** saying: "Lugh give us the waters!" X3 in a call and response with all assembled.

THE OMEN & BLESSING OF THE WATERS

(Carrion)

The officiant takes up the blessing cups and infuses them with the power returning from the gateway. Once the blessings have been infused, he/she will raise the cups and pronounce "Behold the Waters of Life" all assembled will echo "Behold the Waters of Life". *The waters will be passed.* The officiate will then say that these cups contain the blessings of Lugh. *Do you wish to receive the blessings of Lugh?* Participant's response. *Do you wish to receive the blessings of Lugh?* Participant's response. *Do you wish to receive the blessings of Lugh?* Participant's response. Then let us share all he has offered to us.

As the blessings are passed **Grollwynn** will lead the chant, "Blessings of the Holy Ones". While the blessings are being passed the Seer will be taking an omen to determine our blessings.

The omen will be pronounced by **Raven** for the folk. Each of the three runes drawn will be pronounced one at a time. The first will be pronounced, the meaning and interpretation given. **Carrion** will then lead the company to intone the runes. The second will be pronounced, followed by its meaning and then intonation etc. The Seer will offer any final interpretation.

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 thyn.

The fire, the well, the sacred tree

Flow and flame and grow in me.

By Ian Corrigan

THE WORK (Artos & Raven)

Throughout the ritual stone tokens have been infused with the power of the work and energy of the powers who have aided us, the tokens will now be transformed and amulets created to be given to all who have participated in the ritual.

THANKING THE BEINGS

(Carrion) Lugh of the Lamfadha, Many Skilled One. May you continue to guide and protect us, as we strive to mirror your image. Great King of the Tuatha, we thank you for your many blessings you have granted us. **(offering a final token is offered upon the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire. Lugh, we thank you!

All: Lugh, we thank you!

(Isaura) Shining and Chthonic Ones, Eldest and Brightest. May you continue to guide and bless us as we walk this path. Shining and Chthonic Ones, known and unknown, we thank you for the blessings you have given us. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Shining Ones, we thank you!

(Grollwynn) 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. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire. Ancestors, we thank you!

All: Ancestors, we thank you!

(Jim) Nature Spirits, those of land, sea and sky. Our allies of the Middle realm. We thank you for your guidance and protection. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire. Nature Spirits, we thank you!

All: Nature Spirits, we thank you!

(Morrighan)

Lady Brighid, Great Mother of Song and Music. We thank you for your blessings of inspiration and eloquence **(a final token is offered)**. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

Brighid, we thank you!

All: Brighid, we thank you!

CLOSING THE GATES

(Raven)

Dagda Mor, Mighty Druid of the Tuatha; we thank you for your protection and guidance as we stand at the center of all worlds this night. **(A final token is offered)** 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!

Dagda Mor, Great Guardian of the Threshold, I 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.

(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.

Dagda Mor let the Gates be closed!

Let the Gates be closed!

All: Let the Gates be closed!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

Earth Mother & Sky Father

(Jim) Bile, Illuminating One of the Sky, may you continue to show us the way to courage and right.

Bright

Father of the Gael, we thank you for the strength and healing warmth you have given us. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Bile, we thank you!

(Isaura) Danu, 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. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Danu, 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

(Raven)

The Story of Lugh Continues and the Story of Cu Chulainn begins Part 3

Musical Signal- A drum beats 3X3. (Jim)

(Carrion)

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 Chant

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

CHORUS

*The sky fuels the waters
And the waters sustain the skies
We walk together from this place
With the honored as our guides*

*Strong in our purpose
We balance and survive
From many wells of fortitude
Our spirits are revived*

CHORUS

*Joyous in our sharing
We honor dead and alive
With voices of sacred wisdom
We travel the path of our lives*

CHORUS

*Fulfilled in our learning
Our souls will always thrive
In our varied hearts and minds
We keep the sacred for all time*

CHORUS

(lyrics by Isaura; music by Raven of the Sorrows)

Summer Solstice 2012

*Ritual text written by
(Unless otherwise credited)*

Rev. Carrion Mann

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