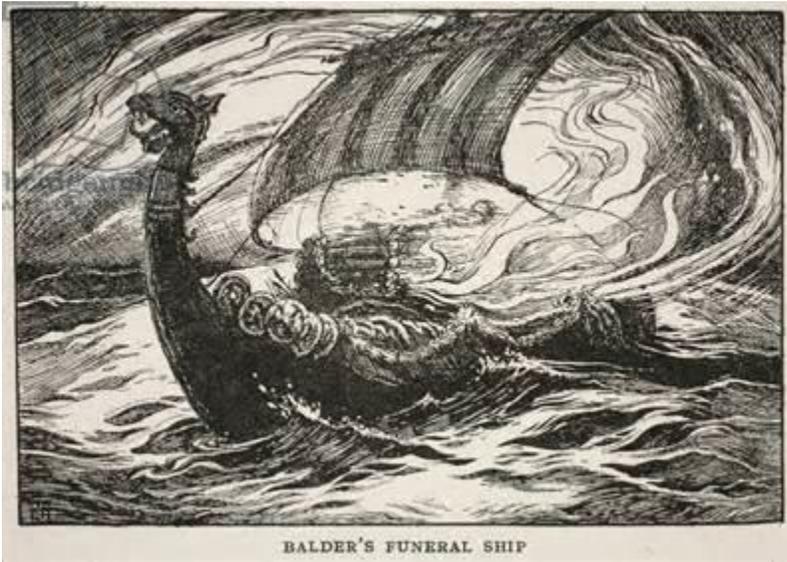


# WHISPERING LAKE GROVE, ADF

*Presents*



## Midsummer

**June 23, 2013**

**6:00PM**

### ATTUNEMENT (Grollwynn)

Joining our hands and closing our eyes, breathe deeply, (pause) feel your feet firmly resting upon the Earth, (pause) in your mind's eye see the Sky that stretches above us, (pause) and feel the presence of the Sea that surrounds us. (pause) We stand together in the Middle Realm, the world that we share with the Spirits of Nature.

Below us exists the Underworld realm of our Ancestors and the sacred source of the primal waters. Reaching far beneath you seek the primal waters. Let us call to them as they rise to meet us, 'sacred waters flow within us.' **All:** 'sacred waters flow within us'. Feel the waters as they enter your being filling the cauldron within your belly, (pause) within your heart (pause) and finally within your head. (pause) Feel the creative potential that flows throughout your being.

Tuning your attention skyward, know that above us stretches the Heavens, realm of the Gods and home of the first fire. Reaching far beyond the sky seek the primal fire. Let us call upon this sacred spark of the first fire, 'sacred fire burn within us'. **All:** 'sacred fire burn within us'. See the illuminating radiance of the sacred fire as it shines upon you igniting the potential that flows within you. See the flames of the first fire ignite the cauldron within your head, (pause) the cauldron within your heart (pause) and finally the cauldron within your belly. (pause)

Feel these primal powers as they surge through you. Your heart beats with the very pulse of all worlds. The fire and water that flows through our veins connects us to the worlds, the realms

and the Kindred. As we open our eyes let us be one in this place!

**HONORING THE GROVE PATRON (Morrighan)**

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 of Irish whiskey is made to Manannan.**

Manannan, Mist Weaver, accept our offering!

**All:** Manannan, accept our offering!

**(Sy)Musical Signal:** A drum sounds 3X3 times

**PURPOSE AND PRECEDENT (Carrion)**

Welcome Children of the Earth and Sky!

Tonight we gather to celebrate under the power and radiance of the summer sun at the Solstice and to honor the Hope of An Age, Mighty Baldar!

Together we shall worship and honor the Fairest and Brightest among the Aesir that he may bring hope in our hearts, inspire our work, and restore our world anew. We shall sing his praise and make our sacrifice, seeking his blessings in return.

May all who gather this eve be welcome among us!

**Lighting the Sacred Fire (Curtis)**

From our hearth fire I kindle this sacred fire...

*(lighting the ritual fire from a hearth candle on the sacrifice table and offering incense to the fire)*

Let these flames illuminate our work, as they live within our hearts and minds.

Let these flames burn away all ill, as they bring strength to our community.

Let these flames welcome our allies, as they ward all who would stand against us!

Sacred flames burn within this fire!

**Pouring the Sacred Waters (Maggie)**

From the waters of our homes, I fill this sacred well...

*(pouring the Grove waters and making the offering of silver to the well)*

Let these waters bring potential to our work, as they flow within each of us.

Let these waters wash away all ill, as they bring strength to our community.

Let these waters welcome our ancestors, as they ward all who would stand against us!

Sacred waters flow within this well!

**Recreating the Cosmos (Maggie)**

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.

**(Carrion) Weaving the Druids Mist**

**All:**

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, honor and worship to the holy ones.

**Growing the Sacred Tree (Grollwynn)**

Before us the great tree begins to grow.  
Roots burying deep within the Underworld  
Branches reaching the highest Heavens.  
Mighty ash of the ancient groves,  
You are the...  
Keeper of Sacred knowledge  
Pillar joining Earth and Sky; the Road to all Realms.  
Sacred tree grow within this place.  
*The bile is asperged with water from the well and censed with incense.*

**PROCESSION**

**In Song (Grollwynn)**

*WE ARE HEATHENS*

*Chorus:*

And they'll know we are heathens by our might and our main,  
And they'll know what heathen means by the name.

We are brave men and women, courage worn like a shield

We will slay our foes and leave their bodies in the field  
And we'll make sure that our kin are all safe and healed

*Chorus*

We are honest with others; to the gods, we are Tru  
When we speak, there is no doubt as to what we will do  
Honest words can bring you close to your kin, too

*Chorus*

We will live with honor, we have nothing to hide  
The worth of our ancestors was judged when they died  
We will save womens' dignity and honor mens' pride

*Chorus*

We will demonstrate loyalty to gods and to man  
Forging bonds of fidelity wherever we can  
And some day our deeds will be sung by our clan

*Chorus*

We will make a place for visitors to our stead  
We will share our ale and we will share our bread  
And tonight, you must stay inside, in our spare bed

*Chorus*

Our minds will be focused, like a wielded sword  
Our hearts act as one, as our bodies' ward  
Over each one's existence there is only one lord

*Chorus*

We will work with each other, we will work side by side  
Younger hands will be influenced by older hands' guide  
And together, the work we've done will aid others' lives

*Chorus*

We rely on each person to bear his own weight  
He will hold up his end making his worth great  
And together we become the masters of our fate

*Chorus*

We stand strong in the face of adversity  
We are stone in the path of instability  
Persevere, now, to make it so our folk remain free

*Chorus*

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*Repeat until all participants have entered the worship area.  
Participants will be censured and asperged as they enter the  
nemeton by Maggie and Curtis.*

**OPENING BLESSINGS**

Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

**Earth Mother (Ky)**

*kneeling at the well*

Ancient One of ever changing beauty  
Primal Mother of Gods and Men  
And Great Goddess of Sovereignty  
We are renewed in your waters  
Cradled within your mantel of green  
And sustained by your abundance  
Earth Mother, we call upon the life-giving magic of the Earth!  
Earth Mother, accept our offering!

*An offering of bread is made.*

**All:** Earth Mother, accept our offering!

**Sky Father (Sy)**

*standing at the sacred fire arms outstretched to the sky.*

Flashing One of the Sun's healing warmth  
Brilliant Father of the Clear Sky  
And Great God of the creative spark  
We are purified between your flames  
Strengthened through your radiant light  
And prosper from your fertility  
Sky Father, we call upon the illuminating power of the Sky!  
Sky Father, accept our offering!

*An offering of bread is made.*

**All:** Sky Father, accept our offering!

Invocation for Bardic Inspiration (Grollwynn)

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, accept our offering!

**ESTABLISHING THE SACRED CENTER & RECREATION OF THE  
COSMOS**

OPENING THE GATES (Carrion)

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...  
As we open the way between the worlds.

*Alcohol is offered.*

Fire Priest, accept our offering!

**All:** Fire Priest, accept our offering!

As the worlds converge within this place 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**

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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!

**All:** Let the Gates Be Open!

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.

*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**

**(Sy)**

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 Midsummer.

Stand with us as we honor Baldar this night.

***Oil is offered to the Kindred.***

Mighty Kindred, accept our offering!

**All:** Mighty Kindred, accept our offering!

**KEY OFFERING**

***“Re-telling of the Death of Balder” (Grollwynn)***

**Calling Baldar (Carrion)**

**PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS (Grollwynn)**

Children of the Earth and Sky bring forth your offerings of praise to Baldar.

***All are given an opportunity to make personal offerings of praise.***

**PRAYER OF SACRIFICE (Carrion)**

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;

We honor Baldar in this season of light, life and hope. It is through our work and sacrifice that we receive his guidance, wisdom and blessings.

Tonight we call out once more from the center of all worlds to our honored guest, as we prepare to make our sacrifice to him.

**(Grollwynn)** Behold good Folk, the long ship that will carry Baldar to the Otherworld approaches!

***As these words are spoken Sy and Curtis will process into the Nemeton, circling once, carrying the ship. The ship will then be placed in the shrine prepared for it.***

**(Grollwynn)** We will now prepare Baldar for his long journey to the Otherworld. You are now invited to come forward and place goods within the ship sending Baldar off in a manner befitting the son of a King. As you place these goods within the ship you may do so in silence or you may lift the horn to make a toast, boast or oath sending Baldar, the Fairest and Brightest, off on the journey we must all take.

***Participants come forward to place grave goods in the ship and to give honor to Baldar. Once all have had an opportunity to give grave goods and honor to Baldar, Morrighan will offer Nanna as a companion for Baldar’s journey. Grollwynn will then place any remaining offering into the ship. Once all goods have been placed in the ship. Sy and Curtis will lift the ship onto the fire. As the ship is lifted into the fire and begins to burn all will join in the following prayer lead by Carrion.***

**(Carrion)** Good Folk, join me now in prayer as Baldar begins his journey.

**Repeat prayer three times pausing for a four count between each.**

Lo, there do I see my father

Lo, there do I see my mother and my sisters and my brothers

Lo, there do I see the line of my people back to the beginning

Lo, they do call to me

They bid me take place among them in the Halls of Valhalla

Where the brave may live forever...

*(Borrowed from the movie The 13th Warrior)*

**After the prayer has been recited the assembly will stand in silence for a few moments as the ship burns.**

Let us dance and make a joyful noise together upon the Earth and beneath the Sky and let the power we raise here this day strengthen and sustain the patron of this rite.

**Participants take up drums, shakers and other instruments, begin chanting etc raising energy as the ship burns upon the sacred fire.**

**Carrion will take an omen to determine if our sacrifice has been accepted and when it has the following words will be spoken.**

**(Grollwynn)** Grieve not, Good Folk! For the young hero is not gone forever. Balder will return at the sounding of Gjallarhorn, for he is the hope of an age! Just as Balder now journeys, we too will one day journey to the Otherworld to fulfill the cycle of life, death and rebirth.

#### **THE OMEN (Carrion)**

Carrion takes the omen as **Grollwynn** leads all who have assembled to direct their energy through the gate. When the omen has been drawn **Carrion** will pronounce each of three Ogham.

#### **BLESSING OF THE WATERS**

**The following words will be spoken over the pitchers.**

**(Morrighan)** 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.

**(Morrighan)** Baldar your blessings upon us!

**All:** Baldar your blessings upon us!

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

**(Morrighan)** Once again, Baldar your blessings upon us!

**All:** Shining Ones your blessings upon us!

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

**(Morrighan)** One last time, Baldar your blessings upon us!

**All:** Baldar 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!

**(Morrighan)** Baldar hear and bless us.

**(Carrion)** Mighty Baldar, Illuminating Hope of an Age, 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 Baldar? \_\_\_\_\_. Then we shall drink deep his blessings!

**The Waters are passed (Maggie and Curtis) and all participants share the waters. As the waters are passed the following song is sung by all participants.**

As the blessings are passed **Grollwynn** will lead the chant, "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 thyn.*

*The fire, the well, the sacred tree*

*Flow and flame and grow in me.*

By Ian Corrigan

### **THANKING THE BEINGS**

**(Carrion)**

Baldar we thank you for the blessings of light and hope you have shared with us. May you continue to bring hope to our world and blessings our work **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

Baldar, we thank you!

**All:** Baldar, we thank you!

**(Sy)**

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

Kindred, we thank you!

**All:** Kindred, we thank you!

**(Grollwynn)**

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!

**(Morrighan)**

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 until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

Manannan, we thank you!

**All:** Manannan, we thank you!

### **CLOSING THE GATES**

**(Carrion)** Mighty Priest of the Sacred Fire, we thank you for tending our fire and warding the way between the worlds with us. (A final token is offered) May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

Fire Priest, we thank you!

**All:** 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!

**All:** Let the Gates be closed!

**(Sy)**

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 **(a final token 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 (Grollwynn)**

Once more take a few deep cleansing breaths as we reaffirm our center (*pause 4 count*). 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 4 count*).

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 8 count*)

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 8 count*)

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 8 count*)

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 drum beats 3X3. (Sy)

**(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 arise 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 2013*

*Ritual text written by  
(Unless otherwise credited)*

*Rev. Carrion Mann*

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