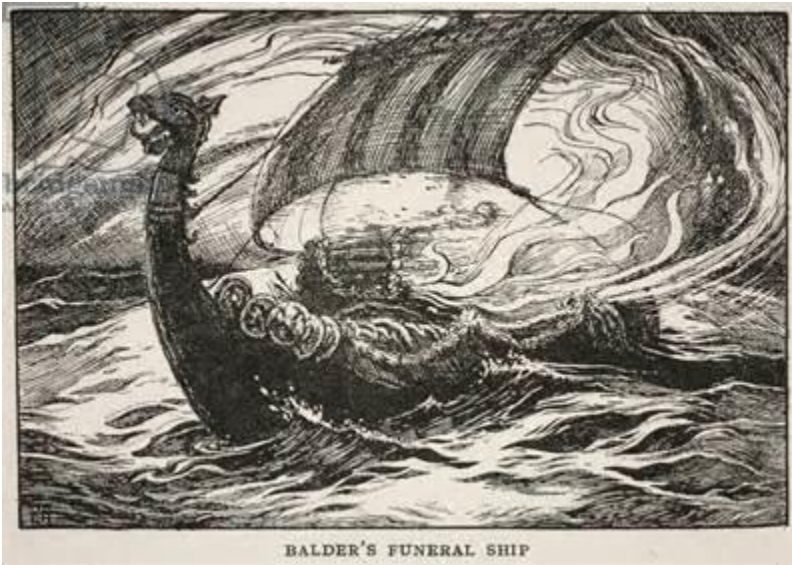


# WHISPERING LAKE GROVE,

**ADF**

*Presents*



## Midsummer

**June 24, 2018**

**6:00PM**

### ATTUNEMENT (Amber)

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!

**Musical Signal:** a drum beats 3x3 **(Chris)**

**Procession & Purification**

*All participants will be censured and asperged as they enter the Nemeton. Syruus & Alicia to cense and asperge.*

**(Carrion)**

*Processional Chant*

*Burn fire, burn bright*

*True wisdom come to me*

*Guide my path tonight with your strength and light.*

*Once all have entered the Nemeton the Druids Mist will be created by Carrion.*

**PURPOSE AND PRECEDENT (Chris)**

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 Balder!

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!

**OPENING BLESSINGS**

**Honoring the Earth Mother (Maggie the Baker)**

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!

Earth Mother accept our offering!

***An offering of bread is made.***

**All:** Earth Mother, Hail and Welcome!

**Honoring the Sky Father (Maggie the Weaver)**

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!

Sky Father accept our offering!

*An offering of oil is made.*

**All:** Sky Father, Hail and Welcome!

Bardic Inspiration **(Carrion)**

You traveled afar to Gunnlod's court  
The blood of Kvasir (Kvah-seer) your quest  
A giant, a snake and three sips of the brew  
And the treasure of Suttung (Soot-ung) was yours.

**(Chris)**

You cunningly took back what was stolen by force  
And to Asgard on eagles' wings flew  
Returning to the Gods, a most precious gift  
That is shared with the folk at your will.

**(Carrion)**

Mighty All-father of the Aesir  
Winner, keeper, and giver of the Mead of Poetry  
Pour down your mead upon us this night  
That our songs and praise may echo through the worlds.

*An offering of honey is made.*

Odin, One-Eyed Wanderer, accept our offering!

**All:** Odin, Hail and Welcome!

Recreation of the Cosmos and Creation of Sacred Time **(Maggie the Baker)**

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.

**(Chris)**

Fire, Well & Tree (chant)

*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.***

*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 or quartz crystal is offered into the well***

*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 censured with incense.*

*Words & music by Pandora*

### **To Land, Sea & Sky (Maggie the Baker)**

Join me as we recreate our cosmos!

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*

### **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***

© *Liafal*

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***

**(Jaeme)**

Bright and shining messengers to the Otherworld

Protectors of this sacred ground.

Light Alfs, House Ghosts and Wights, aid us in our work!

Join us as we celebrate Midsummer!

Stand with us as we honor Mighty Balder!

*Seed & cream is offered.*

Nature Spirits accept our offering!

**All:** Nature Spirits Hail and Welcome!

**(Nathan)**

Wise Ones of the Nine Worlds!

Beloved Dead of blood and spirit

Ancestors of flesh and bone

Alfar and Disir, aid us in our work!

Join us as we celebrate Midsummer!

Stand with us as we honor Balder this night!

*Beer & bread is offered.*

Mighty Dead accept our offering!

**All:** Mighty Dead, Hail and Welcome!

**(Maggie the Weaver)**

We call to those who came out of Gunnungagap before the beginning of time. We call the Gods of fire and of the Sky, the Deities of the Northmen. We call to the Creators of the Worlds, to the Keepers of Cosmic Order. To the Gods of Thought and Memory!

Dwellers of Asgard, aid us in our work!

Join us as we celebrate Midsummer!

Stand with us as we honor Balder this night!

*An offering of golden (yellow) apples is made.*

Deities of Asgard, accept our offering!

**All:** Deities of Asgard, Hail and Welcome!

**KEY OFFERING**

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

**Calling Balder (Carrion)**

As the Sun has reached the height of its power, the Sun sets on the Hope of An Age.

From the center of all worlds we call to Mighty Balder!

At the end and beginning of time we seek the God of the Summer Sun!

Great God of Light and Joy... Fairest of the Aesir, we celebrate your life, honor your death, and await your rebirth!

Balder, accept our offering!

*An offer of mead is made to Balder.*

**All:** Balder, Hail and Welcome!

**PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS (Carrion)**

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

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

**PRAYER OF SACRIFICE (Chris)**

Through our praise, love, and sacrifice,

We honor Balder 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.

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

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

**(Chris)** We will now prepare Balder for his long journey to the Otherworld. You are now invited to come forward and place goods within the ship sending Balder 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 Balder, 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 Balder. Once all have had an opportunity to*

*give grave goods and honor to Balder, Morrighan will offer Nanna as a companion for Balder's journey. Chris will then place any remaining offering into the ship. Once all goods have been placed in the ship. Syruss and Carrion 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 Balder 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.*

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

**(Chris)** 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 (Chris)**

Chris takes the omen as Carrion 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)** Balder your blessings upon us!

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

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

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

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

**(Chris)** *The pitchers are lifted saluting the fire, well and tree.*

#### **HALLOWING OF THE WATERS**

**(Chris)** Behold the Waters of Life!

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

**(Carrion)** Mighty Balder, Illuminating Hope of an Age, hallow these Waters of Life.

**(Chris)** *lifts the pitchers before the participants.*

**(Chris)** Behold the Waters of Life!

**All:** Behold the Waters of Life!

#### **AFFIRMATION OF THE BLESSINGS**

**(Chris)** Now Good folk, do you wish to receive the blessings Of Balder? \_\_\_\_\_. Then we shall drink deep his blessings!

*The Waters are passed (Maggie the Weaver & Alicia) and all*

*participants share the waters. As the waters are passed the following song is sung by all participants.*

As the blessings are passed **Carrion** 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)**

Balder 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.

Balder, we thank you!

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

#### **(Nathan)**

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!

#### **(Chris)**

Odin, Winner, Keeper and Giver of the Mead of Poetry, may you continue to pour down your divine treasure upon us. Great One-Eyed Wanderer, 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.

Odin, we thank you!

**All:** Odin, 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!

#### **(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!

**(Maggie the Weaver)**

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.

Sky Father, we thank you!

**All:** Sky Father, we thank you!

**(Maggie the Baker)**

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.

Earth Mother, we thank you!

**All:** Earth Mother, 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 (Amber)**

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.* **(Chris)**

**(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**

**(Carrion)** 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 2018*

*Ritual text written by  
(Unless otherwise credited)*

*Rev. Carrion Mann*

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