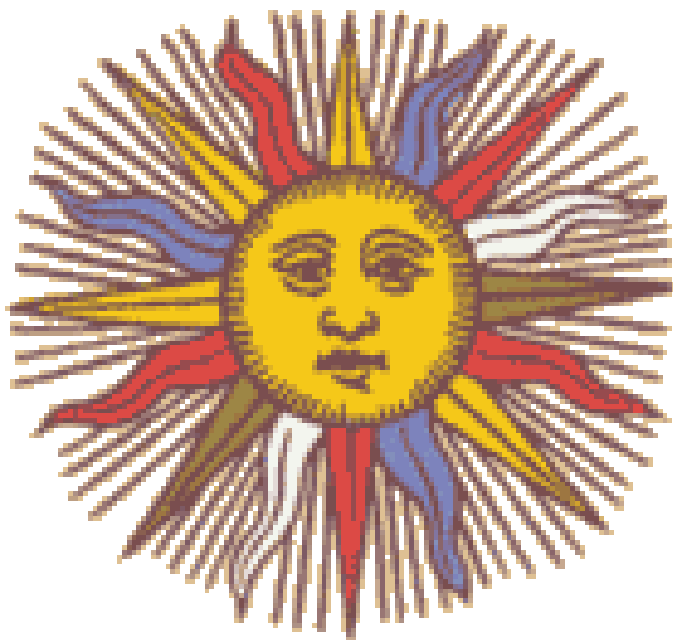


Whispering Lake Grove, ADF

Presents



The Festival of the Sun

June 22, 2014

PROCESSION

Let us now raise our voice as one people.

In song

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 her together

All as we gather at the center of the world.

Words and music by Emerald

Repeat chant 3 times

The ritual space will be censed and asperged prior to the participants entering. The procession will be halted just prior to entering the space and the outwellers will be acknowledged and removed from the space.

OUTDWELLERS

Within each of us dwell forces that bring chaos into our lives, those influences that pollute our hearts and minds. (*pause*) 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 influence and beings that stand against the Gods and Man. Let us remember the strife that they bring. (*pause*) Let us recognize their power and influence; their purpose. (*pause*) And with this token (*a token is held before all who have gathered*) may we seek to end our unhealthy relationships with them.

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!

All: Let it be so!

Participants will be asperged and censed upon entering the ritual space.

ATTUNEMENT

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

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 hammer strikes and anvil 3X3 times

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!
All: 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!

All: Beings of Inspiration, accept our offering!

PURPOSE AND PRECEDENT

Welcome Children of the Earth and Sky!

Tonight we gather to celebrate Solstice of the Sun, beneath Sunna's power and radiance!

Together we shall worship and honor the Bright Mistress of the Sun that she may bring healing to the spirits of this world, to folk and to the land. We shall sing her praise and make our sacrifice, seeking her blessings in return.

May all who gather this eve be welcome among us!

ESTABLISHING THE SACRED CENTER & RECREATION OF THE COSMOS

Establishing the Sacred Fire

From our hearth fire we have kindled this sacred fire...

(an offering of oil is made 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!

Establishing the Sacred Waters

From the waters of our homes, we have filled this sacred well...

(an 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

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.

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

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 by Grollwynn.

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.

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

Sing through my voice,

Play through my hands,

Let the way be open!

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

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.

© Sonoran Sunrise Grove, ADF

Repeat 3x

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 the Solstice.

Stand with us as we honor Sunna this night.

Oil is offered to the Kindred.

Mighty Kindred, accept our offering!

All: Mighty Kindred, accept our offering!

KEY OFFERING

Invocation to Sunna

The first three versus of this offering will be given to members of the community to hail. Carrion will tie the offering together with the last verse.

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

For it is her hands that have shaped the Sun.

All: Hail Sunna!

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

For it is her light that blesses the dying.

All: Hail Sunna!

All Hail, The Glorious Bride of the Heavens!

For she is the foe of all who travel dark paths wishing ill will.

All: Hail Sunna!

All Hail, The Great Goddess of Life and Light!

For at the Summer Solstice her power is at its height.

All: Hail Sunna!

An offering of clarified butteris made.

Sunna, accept our offering!

All: Sunna, accept our offering!

PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS

Children of the Earth and Sky bring forth your offerings of praise to Sunna!

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

GROUP PRAISE OFFERING

In song

Chorus-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!

*Early in the morning the foaming waves are grey and cold,
At the beginning of the story we stand and watch the dawn unfold.
See her dancing on the waters. On a path of shining gold, like a
kindled fire in winter, a brilliant story to behold.*

Chorus-All

*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.*

Chorus-All

Song and music by:

© Alwynne (aka Hilla Hamasdottir)

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;

We honor the Mighty Mistress of the Sun. It is through our work and sacrifice that we receive her guidance, wisdom and blessings.

Tonight we call out once more from the center of all worlds to Sunna that she may heal our world, bless our work and our lives, as we prepare to make our sacrifice to her.

Let us sing, dance and make music 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 instruments to raise energy, begin to pass the Sun Wheel between them as they chant, dance and make a joyful noise to Sunna. Prior to the ritual all in attendance will be given an opportunity to tie ribbons for healing to the Sun Wheel. Additionally, the Sun Wheel will be utilized to direct and contain the energy of the ritual and will be sacrificed to Sunna at the end of the power raising phase of ritual.

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

THE OMEN

The Seer takes the omen as the Bard leads all who have assembled to direct their energy through the gate. When the omen has been drawn the Seer will pronounce each of three Runes. All in attendance will intone the runes into the blessing cups led by the Bard.

BLESSING OF THE WATERS

The following words will be spoken over the pitchers.

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.

Sunna your blessings upon us!

All: Sunna your blessings upon us!

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

Once again, Sunna your blessings upon us!

All: Sunna your blessings upon us!

We have brought our offerings. We have made sacrifice.

One last time, Sunna your blessings upon us!

All: Sunna your blessings upon us!

The pitchers are lifted saluting the fire, well and tree.

HALLOWING OF THE WATERS

Behold the Waters of Life!

Sunna hear and bless us.

Great Goddess of Life and Light, hallow these Waters of Life.

Officiate lifts the pitchers before the participants.

Behold the Waters of Life!

All: Behold the Waters of Life!

AFFIRMATION OF THE BLESSINGS

Now Good folk, do you wish to receive the blessings

Of Sunna? _____. Then we shall drink deep her blessings!

The Waters are passed and all participants share the waters. As the waters are passed the following song is sung by all participants.

As the blessings are passed the Bard 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 thyne.

The fire, the well, the sacred tree

Flow and flame and grow in me.

By Ian Corrigan

THANKING THE BEINGS

Sunna we thank you for the blessings of healing you have shared with land and all those who gather. May you continue to bring warmth and light to our world (**a final token is offered**) May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

Sunna, we thank you!

All: Sunna, 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 (**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!

Beings of Inspiration, 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.

Beings of Inspiration, we thank you!

All: 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. (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!

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!

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 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 hammer strikes and anvil 3X3.

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!

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

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)

WLG Festival of the Sun Ritual 2014

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

Rev. Carrion Mann

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