

# WHISPERING LAKE GROVE,

**ADF**

*Presents*



**Lughnasadh**

**July 28, 2013**

**6:00PM**

## PURPOSE AND PRECEDENT

Welcome Children of the Earth and Sky!

Tonight, we gather to celebrate the season of the harvest, the Feast of Lughnasadh, and the sacred union between the Goddess of the Land and her Champion.

Together we shall worship and honor the Great Goddess of Sovereignty and Mighty Lugh, Champion of the Tuatha, that they may continue to support and sustain our work, our world, and our lives as we celebrate the first harvest.

We shall sing their praise and make our sacrifice, seeking their blessings in return.

May all who gather this eve be welcome among us!

## 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!

**Musical Signal:** A drum sounds 3X3 times

#### **HONORING THE GROVE PATRON**

Guardian of the Blessed Isles, the Land of Promise,  
Land of the Living and of Eternal Youth,  
Walk with us as the land matures around us!  
Great Son of the Sea, Master of Illusion and Ruler of Time,  
Join us at our hearth’s fire once again!  
Weaver of the Grey Mist, Warder of the Way, Enchanter.  
Cloak us within your protection!  
Patron, Companion and Friend,  
Aid us to reap a good harvest and magic to our work!

***An offering of Irish whiskey is made to Manannan.***

Manannan Mac Lir, accept our offering!

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

#### **Lighting the Sacred Fire**

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**

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

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.

### *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

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

For our ancestors, the time of Lughnasadh was the time of the first harvest; the time when the first grains of barley were ground and baked into bread. The hunger had ended, and the tribe could look forward to the bountiful season of harvest. Like our ancestors we reap what we sow, and this day we give thanks and honor to the Mother of this Land, the Goddess of Sovereignty without whose blessings we could not survive.

***Participants will be asperged during the chant that follows:***

#### Processional Chant

*In Song*

*Come we now as a people*

*To gather, together 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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***Repeat until all participants have entered the worship area & have been purified between the fires.***

### **OPENING BLESSINGS**

#### Invocation for Bardic Inspiration

Goddess of Inspiration & Poetry

Great Mother of Song & Music

May our words echo in the sacred well

May our hearts and minds burn with your eternal flame

May our songs resonate upon the wind

May you grant us the gift of inspiration and insight

***An offering of honey is made for Brighid.***

Lady Brighid, accept our offering!

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

Invocation to the Sky Father

We now turn our hearts and minds skyward.

We call to the ancient chieftain among our Gods.

To the One whose quiet patience is forever overhead.

We call to the Father of the Clear Sky.

To the God who wed the Mother of the Earth.

Sky Father we honor you and offer you welcome.

***An offering of oil is made.***

Sky Father, accept our offering!

All: Sky Father, accept our offering!

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

OPENING THE GATES

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***

*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

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

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 Lughnasadh!

Stand with us as we honor the Goddess of Sovereignty!

***All in song***

*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***

***Oil is offered to the Kindred during each round of the chant.***

Kindred, accept our offering!

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

**KEY OFFERING**

**Calling the Mother of the Land**

Bountiful Mother of the Land  
Wielder of the Power of Potential,  
And Maker of High Kings

Bringer of fertility and fair weather  
Great Goddess of Sovereignty  
Ancient One of Ever-Changing Beauty.

Through your sacrifice and blessing the land does prosper.  
It is in your honor we assemble this night!

***A sacrifice of wheat bread & cream is made.***

Goddess of Sovereignty; accept our offering!

**All:** Goddess of Sovereignty, accept our offering!

**Lugh**

Bright Hero of the Tuatha  
Wielder of the Spear of Glorias  
And Master of Many Arts.

Mighty Young Bull of the first harvest  
Great Guardian of roads and travelers  
Champion, Protector and King

Through your strength and courage our tribe will prosper.  
It is your image of perfection for which we strive.

***An offering of wheat bread & honey is made.***

Lugh, accept our offering!

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

**PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS**

Children of the Earth and Sky bring forth your offerings of praise to the Goddess of Sovereignty and her Champion.

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

**PRAYER OF SACRIFICE**

Through our praise, love, and sacrifice,

We honor the Goddess of Sovereignty and her Champion in this season of the first harvest. 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 the primal beings that support and sustain our work and our lives, as we prepare to make our sacrifice to them.

Let us dance together upon the Earth and beneath the Sky and let the power we raise here this day strengthen and sustain the patrons of this rite.

***Participants take up instruments and begin chanting, singing, and dancing to raise energy for the beings of the occasion.***

**THE OMEN**

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

**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.

Holy Ones your blessings upon us!

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

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

Once again, Holy Ones your blessings upon us!

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

We have brought our offerings. We have made sacrifice.

One last time, Holy Ones your blessings upon us!

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

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

### **HALLOWING OF THE WATERS**

Behold the Waters of Life!

Holy Ones, hear and bless us.

Great Goddess of Sovereignty and Mighty Champion, hallow these Waters of Life.

*lift the pitchers before the participants.*

Behold the Waters of Life!

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

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 thyn.*

*The fire, the well, the sacred tree*

*Flow and flame and grow in me.*

By Ian Corrigan

### **THANKING THE BEINGS**

Mother of this Land and Mighty Champion we thank you for the blessings of the harvest that you have shared with us. May you continue to support, sustain, and protect 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.

Holy Ones, we thank you!

**All:** Holy Ones, 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!

Lady Brighid, 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!

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**

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!

#### Thanking the Sky Father

Great Father of the Clear Sky we thank you for the blessings of the harvest you have shared with us.

May you continue upholding and blessing our work, our lives and world (**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!

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 drum beats 3X3.*

**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)*

***Lughnasadh 2013***

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

***Rev. Carrion Mann***

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