

Abhainn Glas
Summer Solstice 2005

Roles:

1st Phase
Starting the Rite and Establishing the Groupmind

Clearcut Beginning: Consecration of Time

- Musical Signal
- Opening Prayer(Ritual Leader)
Hail, ye Æsir and Vanir, all ye power-holy gods!
These days love the light
Giver of life.
The fresh-planted fields quicken with the life-giving power of Sunna,

Consecration of Space & of Participants

- The Processional/Sigil Marking

Firekeeper, Waterkeeper, Ritual Leader process clockwise 3x around the firepit, followed by the assembled folk. The Bard stands off to the side, providing music for the procesional.

Processional song: We approach the sacred Grove

(ALL) We approach the sacred grove
With hearts and minds and flesh and bone
Join us now in ways of old
We have come home

- Hammer-hallowing (Ritual Leader)

(Imagine the hammer extending from your hand to the entire area to be hallowed)

Ritual Leader: With Thor's Hammer I hallow the harrow!
(Faces North, holding the hammer before him) Thor! Hallow this harrow in the North!
(Faces East, holding the hammer before him) Thor! Hallow this harrow in the East!
(Faces South, holding the hammer before him) Thor! Hallow this harrow in the South!
(Faces West, holding the hammer before him) Thor! Hallow this harrow in the West!
(Faces north, looking up and holding the hammer towards the heavens) Thor! Hallow this harrow above!
(Faces north, looking down, holding the hammer towards the ground) Thor! Hallow this harrow below!

- Honoring the Earth-Mother

Ritual Leader: Jörð, Earth Mother
Source of Life
Bright jewel of Midgard
We honor you here, great mother of all!

(Pours libation)

Centering, Grounding, & Merging

•The Grove Meditation

(TO BE WRITTEN)

•Unity Chant/Song

ALL:

•Specification of Ritual Purpose & Historical Precedent

•Naming Deity(ies) of the Occasion & Reasons for Choice

Ritual Leader: In olden times, the ancients held council during this time and called it the Allthing. Judgements were made and, as such, we honor Tyr, god of justice.

2nd Phase

Recreating the Cosmos and Preliminary Power Raising

Creating the Vertical Axis

•Evoking the Fire & Water Deities & Linking to Center

Firekeeper: Hail to thee, Loki, flame-haired change-bringer!

Trickster, thief, provider.

Like the fire that brings change, you sow chaos.

Fire is the spark of inspiration.

Sacred fire, burn in me!

ALL: Sacred fire burn in me!

Waterkeeper: Hail to thee, Aegir, sea-wreathed ale-brewer, husband to Ran

Feast-hoster, ancient god, sea god.

Hael to thee, Ran, wave-mother, gatherer of the shipwrecked,

Net-wielder, ancient goddess, sea goddess.

Water is the depth of wisdom.

Sacred water flow in me!

All: Sacred water flow in me!

Ritual Leader: Hail to thee, Odin, one-eye, wise-god, rune-bringer.

You who hung from Yggdrasil for a taste from Mimir's well.

You travel to all the worlds as you will.

Yggdrasil is our connection to all the worlds.

Sacred tree, grow in me!

Ritual Leader: Fire, water, sacred tree...

All: Flame and flow and grow in me.

•Evoking the Gate Keeper/Defining the Ritual Center

Ritual Leader: Hail to thee, Heimdall, far-seer, sharp-eared.

Guardian of Bifrost, Giallar-blower.

We ask you to ward the ways between the worlds as we invite the gods and goddesses to join us in our ritual.

Heimdall, accept our sacrifice! (pours libation)

ALL: Heimdall, accept our sacrifice!

Gaining Assistance & Preventing Interferences

•Invoking the Bardic Deity(ies) or Spirit

Bard: Hail, Bragi, best of the skalds, husband of Idunna,
Rune-tongue, white beard, we drink from bragarfull, the best cup, Bragi's cup
We ask the inspiration of the best of skalds in our work.

Bragi, accept our sacrifice!

All: Bragi, accept our sacrifice!

•Acknowledgement of the Outsiders

Ritual Leader: Ye children of Ymir – Etins, Rises, Thurses, and Trolls
Take our offering and leave us to worship as we will.

Filling Out the Cosmic Picture by Invoking..

•Ancestors

Waterkeeper: Hail, honored ancestors, those who have passed before. Your children call to you!
Join us this day as we celebrate!

Ancestors – Join us!

All: Ancestors – Join us!

•Nature Spirits

Firekeeper: Hail, ye Alfs, Dwarves, Land-wights and Huld-folk, you whodwell in nature! Your allies call to you. Join us this day as we celebrate!

Land spirits, join us!

All: Land spirits, join us!

•Deities

Ritual Leader: Hail, ye Æsir and Vanir, gods and goddesses, you who abide in Asgard!
Your kin call to you! Join us this day as we celebrate!

Gods and goddesses, join us!

All: Gods and goddesses, join us!

3rd Phase
Major Sending of Power to Deity/ies of the Occasion

Descriptive Invocation of Diety(ies) of the Occasion

Primary Power Raising

•Praise Offerings, Dance, Libations, etc.

Ritual Leader: Now dance 'round the flames,

Dance to the might of Midsummer,

Dance in weal, dance out woe

Dance in honor of the gods and goddesses!

(All dance)

The Folk all dance about the fire and the Midsummer-tree. If they have made wreaths, the men and women may crown each other with them at this time. The woman who drew the marked lot must dance with the Carle. As the folk dance, they cast their twigs into the fire, saying,

"All woe burn away with these leaves!"

•The Sacrifice (while the dancing continues)

When the dance begins to slow, the Ritual Leader stops and fills the horn with mead. Hold it up, saying,

Eagle's flood glittering falls down here,
seed of Victory-Father's beak.

Odin, awake us with Wod-Stirrer mead!

Thy eye gaze on us this eve,
light with thy lore this night.

All of the Æsir's-Garth, awesome, share.

The Vanir, all wise, have their share.

Here we drink to the holy gods,
with might that roars through mead.

The Ritual Leader passes the horn around – all take a sip or pour onto the ground, while giving a toast to a god or goddess.

The Ritual Leader passes the horn around again– all take a sip or pour onto the ground, while giving a toast to the Ancestors.

The Ritual Leader passes the horn around one last time – all take a sip or pour onto the ground, while giving whatever they like – like a praise offering.

The Ritual Leader pours what is left into the bowl and signs it with Sun-Wheel,

Hammer, and Walknot. S/he sprinkles the sundry items as named with the mead, saying,

"I hallow the harrow this holy night. Midsummer-tree, I hallow thee! I bless thee, Carle (or "longship"), given as gift; I bless the fire that burns. Here I bless all the airts"

The Ritual Leader sprinkles in the eight directions,
"those above and those below. I bless all the folk gathered here."

The Ritual Leader sprinkles each of the folk in turn.
"I give this gift to you, gods and goddesses all!"

The Ritual Leader pours the blessing over the Carle and the tree. If there is a lot of mead, and the Carle is a small figure, care should be taken that he is not so well-soaked that he will not burn.

The woman who danced with the Carle lifts him up, saying,

"I bring my bridegroom, my Midsummer-man, holy and blessed for the gods. Let him be given, that green grow the earth, that well may wax all our works!"

The Godwo/man sets a hand on the Carle, speaking or whispering a bidding or thanks to the god/esses. Each of the folk comes up to do so in turn, till all are touching the Carle. The Godwo/man says,

"So we all give Midsummer-man! We heave him up for the high ones..."

The folk all swing the Carle up and down once...

"We heave him up for the holy wights..."

They swing him again...

"For gods and goddesses all!"

They swing him up and toss him into the fire. As he burns, all cheer and hail him.

Ritual Leader: Tyr, sky-god, keeping faith with athlings,
god of war, god of justice, we honor thee this day.
Keep well our brothers and sisters who go in harm's way!

Tyr, accept our sacrifice!

All: Tyr, accept our sacrifice!

- Seeking the Omen of Return

Bard: We seek an omen from the gods and goddesses!
SEER TO PERFORM

4th Phase
Unwinding and Ending the Ceremony

•Thanking of Entities Invited, in Reverse Order

Ritual Leader: Tyr, most bold, most courageous, god of light, we thank you for your presence! Leave if you must but stay if you will!

Tyr, thank you!

All: Tyr, thank you!

Ritual Leader: Ye Æsir and Vanir, ye gods and goddesses, power-holy, we thank you for your presence! Leave if you must but stay if you will!

Gods and goddesses, we thank you!

All: Gods and goddesses, we thank you!

Firekeeper: Land spirits, you who dwelt here of old, we thank you for your presence. Leave if you must but stay if you will!

Land spirits, we thank you!

All: Land spirits, we thank you!

Waterkeeper: Ancestors, ancient kin, we thank you for your presence. Leave if you must but stay if you will!

Ancestors, we thank you!

All: Ancestors, we thank you!

Waterkeeper: Aegir and Ran, god and goddess of the sea, we thank you for your presence. Leave if you must but stay if you will!

Aegir and Ran, we thank you!

All: Aegir and Ran, we thank you!

Firekeeper: Loki, flame-haired god of change and fire, we thank you for your presence! Leave if you must but stay if you will!

Loki, we thank you!

All: Loki, we thank you!

•Thanking the Gatekeeper & Closing the Gates

Ritual Leader: Heimdall, far-seeing, watchman of the gods, we thank you for your assistance! Leave if you must but stay if you will!

Heimdall, thank you!

All: Heimdall, thank you!

Ritual Leader: And as our guests leave, we

- Unmerging, Regrounding & Recentering – Meditation
(Waterkeeper)
- Draining off Excess Power - The Restoration

Clearcut Ending: Deconsecration of Time and Space

- Final Benediction

- Announcement of End
- Dissolving the Sigil
- Musical Signal