

Whispering Lake Grove A.D.F.



Lughnasadh

August 5, 2007
6:00 PM

PREPARATION

GROVE ATTUNEMENT

Closing your eyes, take a few deep cleansing breaths.

Breathing in through your nose and out through your mouth.

In through your nose and out through your mouth.

As you breathe, lay aside the worries, troubles and woes of the mundane world. *(pause 4 count)*

We now stand between Earth and Sky

Feel your feet firmly resting upon the Earth

Know that below us flows the primal waters

Cold, dark and chaotic; filled with the potential of all life.

Allow the primal waters to enter your being.

Feel the coolness of the waters as they pool within your belly,
within your heart and finally, within your head. *(pause 8 count)*

Reaching high into the sky above

Feel the illuminating radiance of the Heavens

Know that above us burns the primal fires

Warm, light and ordered; filled with the spark of all life.

Allow the primal fire to enter your being.

Feel the warmth of the fires as they illuminate your mind, your
heart and finally your spirit. *(pause 8 count)*

Feel the primal powers of Earth and Sky as they surge through
you, lending strength and energy to your being. *(pause 8 count)*

Now join your hands, your hearts and your minds as one people.
(All participants join hands)

Feel the primal powers of Earth and Sky as they surge through us,

lending strength and energy to one and all.

As we open our eyes, know that we assemble as one folk to worship with a common purpose.

All:

May our worship be true.

May our actions be just.

May our love be pure.

Blessings, honor and worship to the Holy Ones.

Honoring Our 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!

A member of Whispering Lake Grove will prepare a special offering for the Grove Patron and give the offering at this time.

An offering is made to Manannan.

Manannan, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

PROCESSION *(All in song)*

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.

© Stone Creed Grove, ADF

Repeat until all participants have entered the ritual space.

OPENING PRAYERS

Musical Signal- *A drum beats 9 times.*

Clear-cut Beginning

Once more the summer sun begins to wane, as the green world has reached maturity. A warm wind continues to blow across the land, as we reap the first of our harvest. The dark hand of chaos has begun its ascent and all begin to prepare for the season of change.

Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

Earth Mother & Sky Father

kneeling at the well

Ancient One of ever changing beauty

Primal Mother of the Mighty Tuatha

And Great Goddess of Sovereignty

We are renewed in your waters

Cradled within your mantel of green

And sustained by your abundance

Danu, Earth Mother, we call upon the life-giving magic of the Earth!

standing at the sacred fire arms outstretched to the sky.

Flashing One of the Sun's healing warmth

Brilliant Father of the Adventurous Gael

And Great God of the creative spark

We are purified between your flames

Strengthened through your radiant light

And prosper from your fertility

Bile, Sky Father, we call upon the illuminating power of the Sky!

Great Earth Mother and Sky Father,
Through your sacred union springs forth all life.
Mother and Father of all that was, of all that is and all that will
be.

We come before you in love and respect and we ask that you
uphold and bless our gathering!

*An offering of white bread (1 whole round loaf) and clarified
butter is made to the Earth Mother and Sky Father.*

Earth Mother and Sky Father, accept our offering!

All: Earth Mother and Sky Father, be welcome among us!

Invocation for Bardic Inspiration

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 cream & honey is placed in the offering bowl
for Brighid.*

Lady Brighid, accept our offering!

All: Brighid, be welcome among us!

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Purpose of the Ritual

This eve we gather upon the Earth as one tribe;

To celebrate the first harvest as one people;

We gather kith, kin and clan beneath the Sky;

To welcome the Kindred among us;

We gather this eve to honor of Lugh, the Many Skilled One and

Champion of the Tuatha.

That we may receive his blessings in return.

Today, we shall keep the Feast of Lughnassadh and reap that
which we have sown.

Historical Precedent

“The Coming of Lugh to Tara”

May all who gather this eve be welcome among us!

CONSECRATION OF SPACE & PARTICIPANTS

Outdwellers *(at the Southern fire the Sacrificer lays a token for
the Outdwellers)*

Dark dwellers, take heed this night!

Know the Mighty Tuatha will ward this place!

Their treasures will strike order from chaos!

Driving all that is twisted and bent into the darkness.

Balor of the Evil Eye; King of the Fomorians,
who has dared to challenge the Might and Magic of the Tuatha.
You and your kin, primal bringers chaos and discord,
Hoards, whose screams and cries, harmonize not with our songs
and praise.

Dark dwellers, take heed this night!

This time and place we claim as ours!

You may have held it in the past, you may hold it in the future,
but for now,

Let it be known that it is OURS!

We have given to you all that we intend to give.

Take what has been laid beyond the fire's light

And trouble us not this night!

Crom Dubh (at the Southern fire before the head of Crom)

Ancient black bowed one
Ruler of the dark and shadows
Withered old bull upon the barren land
Dark, bent one beyond the borders of our fire's light
And Carrier of mankind's burdens of the harvest.
Crom Dubh, the land will soon be yours once more! This night
we ask that you accept this gift, *A sacrifice of grains and wild
flowers is made* the first of our harvest, that you may stay your
hand awhile longer.

Purification of Participants & Space

*The aspersion bowl is filled from the Well and the censer is
kindled from the Fire. Ritual participants are cleansed with water
from the well and purified with smoke from the censor. After the
participants are cleansed and purified the Nemeton is cleansed
and purified as the following power building chant is led.*

With the powers to create and destroy.

And the strength to cleanse and purify.

***When all participants have been purified Raven will step
forward saying:***

Through the union of fire and water,
Our Nemeton is made whole and holy!

Once more we have met the threat of chaos with order and laid
claim to this place. We have made sacred this space that we may
worship and honor the Kindred as one people.

THE SACRED CENTER

Affirmation of Unity

Let us now raise our voice as one people.

In song

Power of the Spirit

.....Flowing in me (echo)

Power of the Spirit

.....Growing in me(echo)

Power of the Spirit

.....Shining through me(echo)

© **Stone Creed Grove, ADF**

Establishing Sacred Time

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 lay a fertile
land.

In the South the old Fir Bolg King, dreamed of birds, the sky grew
dark as the great flock approached the shore.

From the North through smoke and mist came beings of great
might and magic, the vast army of the Tuatha to overtake the land.
Bringing with them four treasures that would assure their victory.

Reaching the shore, the Tuatha burnt their ships and a great battle
for the land began. Great numbers of the Fir Bolg fell as the armies
of the Tuatha swept across the land. In defeat the Fir Bolg retreated
to the lands of the Formorians and the Tuatha De Danannan lay
claim to Ireland.

Fire, Well & Tree (chant)

All in song

By Fire and by Water, between the Earth and Sky

We stand like the World-Tree rooted, deep, crowned high.

By Fire and by Water, between the Earth and Sky

We stand like the World-Tree rooted, deep, crowned high.

Come we now to the Well, the eye and the mouth of Earth,

Come we now to the Well, and silver we bring.

Come we now to the Well, the waters of rebirth

Come we now to the Well, and together we sing.
CHORUS- offering of silver made to the well

*We will kindle a Fire, Bless all, and with harm to none,
We will kindle a Fire, and offering pour,
We will kindle a Fire, a light 'neath the Moon and Sun,
We will kindle a Fire, our spirits will soar.*

CHORUS-offering of incense made to the fire

*Gather we at the Tree, the root & the crown of all
Gather we at the Tree, below & above,
Gather we at the Tree, together we make our call,
Gather we at the Tree, in wisdom and love.*

CHORUS-bile censed and asperged

© Stone Creed Grove, ADF

COMPLETING THE COSMOLOGY

To Land, Sea & Sky

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

OPENING THE GATES

Invocation to the Gatekeeper

Manannan MacLir, it is your might and magic that wards the threshold.

Grey Rider of Aonbarr, we ask for your protection as we walk through the mist this night.

Mighty Lord of the Crossroads, as we travel between the worlds of man and Sidhe may you part the mist before us.

Irish whiskey is offered to Manannan.

Manannan MacLir, Mist Weaver, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

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*

Manannan, merge now your magick with ours!

See the flame leaping forth from the fire.

See the mist arising from the well,

Flame and mist converging upon the tree.

Forming a meeting place between the realms

Striking a sigil or triskel over the fire

Let the fire burning towards the heavens open as a gate that we may follow the way to the Shining Ones.

Striking a sigil or triskel over the well

Let the well whose depths reach the Underworld open as a gate that we may follow the way to the Mighty Dead.

Striking a sigil or triskel upon the tree

Let the tree, pathway between Earth & Sky, be open to us.

By the land before us!

By the seas about us!
By the sky above us!
Let the Gates Be Open!

GENERAL OFFERINGS TO AND INVOCATION OF THE SPIRITS

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

Allies of the Middle Realm!
Guides and Companions we call you near!
Join us as we celebrate the first harvest once more!
Stand beside us as we honor the Many Skilled One!
Noble Ones, accept our offering!

Bird Seed is offered.

All: Noble Ones, be welcome among us!

Wise Ones of the Realm Below!
Beloved Dead of blood and spirit; Ancestors of flesh and bone
Join us as we celebrate the first harvest once more!
Stand beside us as we honor the Many Skilled One!

Beer and bread is offered.

Ancestors, accept our offering!

All: Ancestors, be welcome among us!

Eldest and Brightest of the Realm Above!
Bringers of life, death and rebirth.
Join us as we celebrate the first harvest once more!
Stand beside us as we honor the Many Skilled One!

Clarified butter is offered.

Shining Ones, accept our offering!

All: Shining Ones, be welcome among us!

In song

*Gods and Dead and Mighty Sidhe
Powers of Earth and Sky and Sea
By Fire and Well, by Sacred Tree
Offerings We Make to Ye
© Stone Creed Grove,*

HONORING THE DEITIES OF THE RITE

Lugh

Bright Hero of the Tuatha
Weilder 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 we prosper.

An offering of bread & beer is made.

Lugh of the Long Arm, accept our offering!

All: Lugh, be welcome among us!

PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS

At this time you may bring forth your offerings of praise to the
Deity of the Occasion. ***(Once all personal praise offerings have
been made to the Deity of the Occasion the Group will offer
praise)***

Group Praise Offering/Seasonal Enactment

Behold Good Folk, the Gate to Tara lays before you. In order to
gain admittance into Tara you must bring forth a skill that no
other in our community possesses. Who will bring forth the first
skill?

*Participants bring forth their skills to gain entrance to the gate.
Each participant is denied entrance.*

*The Grove Scribe will record each skill as it is brought forth;
making a list. She will be the last to go to the gate. She will give
her own skill and read the list of skills for all who have
gathered. The Gate will open.*

*holding up the spear of Lugh says: Warrior is there a champion
among us!*

*A warrior will come forward and take the spear of Lugh and
pass the spear to the Champion of the Games.*

Will you lead our tribe as we enter the Gates of Tara?

*The champion leads all participants through the gate and into
the garden below.*

revisits the story of Lugh and community.

For a community to be whole it realize on individuals with...

*Officiates spend a few moments speaking of its importance for
a community.*

Wisdom

Piety

Vision

Integrity

Courage

Perseverance

Fertility

Hospitality

Moderation

Bring out your bread...*The Sacrificer will bring out the bread.
(We will need 2 whole loaves of bread for this)*

In song

Building Bridges Between Our Divisions

I reach out for you, as you reach out for me

With all of our voices and all of our visions

Brothers we could make such a sweet harmony

Sisters we could make such a sweet harmony

*Participants will follow Grollwynn from the garden, back
through the gate and into the Nemeton.*

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;

We honor Lugh Lamfadha, as he walks among us.

Through communication with the Otherworld;

We receive his guidance, inspiration and insight.

Tonight we call out from the crossroads to our guest of honor!

As we prepare to make our final sacrifice.

The final sacrifice is prepared.

It is in love, honor and respect that we have offered hospitality
to our guest this night.

We have sung his praise; made our sacrifice.

It is our hope that our words and sacrifice have conveyed our
love.

We call once more through the Gates and deep within the
Otherworld that he shall know of our devotion.

Eldest and Brightest of Lughnasadh, we honor you.

The final sacrifice is made.

Lugh Lamfadha, accept our sacrifice!

All: Lugh Lamfadha, accept our sacrifice!
Participants meditate on the , sending their energies through the gates.

THE OMEN

The Omen is taken by drawing three Ogham. The seer then interprets the omen asking if our sacrifice and offerings have been accepted. The Seer then leads the company to contemplate the blessings/warnings of the omen from the Deities of the Occasion.

Let us raise our voices in song as Brighid reveals her will.

In song

*Come druid all, ovates and seers
And let your minds be still
Earth, sea and sky will lend no fears
As the gods reveal their will.*

*Let every heart sing praise to them
And all our works be skilled
Claiming their blessings to the very end.
As the gods reveal their will.*

(Words by Sean Miller)

CALLING FOR THE BLESSING

*Two pitchers will be filled and sat in the midst of the hallows.
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.

Lugh, your blessings upon us!

All: Lugh your blessings upon us!

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

Once again, Lugh your blessings upon us!

All: Lugh, your blessings upon us!

We have brought our offerings. We have made sacrifice.

One last time, Lugh your blessings upon us!

All: Lugh, your blessings upon us!

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

HALLOWING OF THE WATERS

Behold the Waters of Life!

Lugh, hear and bless us.

Lugh, Bright Hero of the Tuatha, hallow these waters of life.

The Sacrificer 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 our honored guests? _____. Then we shall drink deep the blessings of the Many Skilled One!

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

As we receive the blessing of Lugh let us raise our voices in song.

In song

Pour the waters, raise the cup, drink your share of wisdom deep, strength and love now fill us up as the elder ways we keep.

© Stone Creed Grove, ADF

Repeat until the horns have been passed to all participants.

THANKING THE BEINGS

Lugh of the Long Arm, the Many Skilled One. May you continue to guide and protect us, as we strive to mirror your image. Great King of the Tuatha, we thank you for your blessings this eve. **(offering a final token (bannock) is offered upon the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Lugh, we thank you!

Mighty Kindred of land, sea and sky, Eldest, Wisest and Mightiest of the realms. May you continue to protect, guide and bless us as we walk this path. Kindred we thank you for the knowledge 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.

All: Kindred, we thank you!

Lady Brighid, Great Mother of Song and Music. 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.

All: Brighid, we thank you!

CLOSING THE GATES

Manannan MacLir, Weaver of Gray Mists; we thank you for your protection and guidance as we have walked between the worlds this night. **(A final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire

All: Manannan, we thank you!

Manannan Mac Lir, Great Guardian of the Threshold, we now ask that you close the gates, warding the way between the worlds once more.

Striking the sigil over the fire

Let the fire burning towards the heavens once more become but flames.

Striking the sigil over the well

Let the well whose depths reach the Underworld once more become but water.

Striking the sigil upon the tree

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!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

Bile, Illuminating One of the Sky, may you continue to show us the way to courage and right. Bright Father of the Gael, we thank you for the strength and healing warmth you have given us. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Bile, we thank you!

Danu, Ancient One of Ever Changing Beauty, may you continue to renew and sustain us. Primal Mother of the Tuatha, 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.

All: Danu, 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

Good folk, join me once more as we close our eyes; breathing deeply in through your nose and out through your mouth (**pause for a 2 count**).

As the mighty oak is part of the forest, we are all part of the great circle of life. Remember the blessings we have received together this night (**pause**).

As we stand between Earth and Sky

Once more feel your feet firmly resting upon the Earth

Know that below us flows the primal waters.

Once more feel the coolness of the waters that have pooled within your belly, within your heart and finally, within your head. (**pause 4 count**)

Reaching high into the sky above

Feel the illuminating radiance of the Heavens.

Know that above us burns the primal fires.

Once more feel the warmth of the fires that have illuminated your mind, your heart and finally your spirit. (**pause 4 count**)

Feel the primal powers of Earth and Sky surging through you, as they have given strength and energy to your being. (**pause 4 count**)

Keep of this power what you need, sending what remains forth from our beings into the Great Lake (**pause**). See this energy heal and protect her as we conclude our worship.

May all that is be what was, that it may be again!

Musical Signal- *A drum beats 9 times.*

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 Song

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)

Special Thanks To:

All who attended, participated and shared in our Lughnasadh celebration.

Stone Creed Grove, ADF for the chants

Pour the Waters, Power of the Spirit, The Portal Song, Gods and Dead and Mighty Sidhe, and Come We Now as A People.

Liafal for the Gatekeeper Chant

The Unknown Author of Building Bridges

Ceisiwr Serith for the text for recreating the cosmos.

Sean Miller for Come Druids All

Whispering Lake Grove, A.D.F.

Lughnasadh Ritual

2007

Ritual text written by

(Unless otherwise credited)

Raven & Carrion Mann

© 2007 Raven & Carrion Mann

