

Whispering Lake Grove ADF



Hellenic Fall Feast

October 19, 2008

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)*

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 you, lending strength and energy to your being. *(pause 8 count)*

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.

PROCESSION

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 ritual space. Just prior to entering the ritual space participants will wash their hands, be censured with incense and receive a handful of barley to throw around the space and at the altar for purification.

OPENING PRAYERS

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!

An offering of whiskey is made to Manannan upon the idol for him.

Manannan, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

Musical Signal- *Pan pipes sound 3X3.*

Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

Earth Mother

Chaotic potential and beauty.

Primal power of the strong and wilful Earth.

A match for even mighty Zeus.

Cow-eyed maiden of Olympus.

Goddess of Sovereignty and Sacred Unions

Queen of Gods and of the Golden Throne

Pour forth your creative potential!

An offering of a willow wreath is given to Hera.

Hera, accept our offering!

All: Hera, be welcome among us!

Sky Father

Cosmic order and radiant light

Primal power of the illuminating Heavens.

Wielder of the lightning bolt

Chieftain of Olympus.

Father of the Clear Sky and Storm Bringer

Supreme ruler of the Gods and Man.

Ignite the potential within us all!

An offering of olive oil is given to Zeus.

Zeus, accept our offering!

All: Zeus, be welcome among us!

Invocation for Bardic Inspiration

Patron and Protector of Poet and Bard.
Player of the Phormix; Musician of the Muses
And Master of the Healing Hymn.

Most Eloquent God of Afar.
May your music fill our hearts.
Your inspiration flood our minds.
And your magic flow from our lips.
An offering honey is made to Apollo.
Apollo, accept our offering!
All: Apollo, be welcome among us!

A Prayer for the Elder Wise

The blood within our veins has also flowed in yours.
The thoughts that fill our mind have also filled yours.
The love and pain we feel has lived within your heart.
A well worn path we travel in your footsteps through the dark.

We are asking for your hand, for a torch to light the way.
For your guidance in our work and your wisdom as we pray.
May join the Elder Wise when our time has passed,
Aiding future generations that we shall not be the last.
An offering of incense is made to the Elder Wise.
Elder Wise, accept our offering!
All: Elder Wise, be welcome among us!

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Tonight we gather between the Earth and Sky.
To honor Artemis, Virgin Huntress and Mistress of the Animals.
We shall sing her praise and make our sacrifice.
As we seek her blessings in return.

We gather this day at the crossroads.
In celebration of the wild places of this world.
Enjoying the company of friends and family.
As we remembering the ways of old.
While we welcome the new year before us.
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)

Beings of chaos and discord!
Hoards, whose minds know not rest and whose spirits know not peace.
To all those whose screams and cries, harmonize not with our songs and praise.
Know that 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.
May order reign and chaos trouble not our gathering!

THE SACRED CENTER

Affirmation of Unity

Let us now raise our voice as one people.

In Song

Cauldron of Changes (Author Unknown)

Cauldron of changes, blossoms of bone

Arch of infinity, hole in the stone.

Repeat chant 3X 3 times

Establishing Sacred Time

In the beginning there was but a yawning void and within it swirled the chaos of potential.

As it swirled this wild power began to organize and with it order was created.

Through the union of chaos and order came the source of all creation, the cosmic egg. And from this egg came the worlds, the realms and the Kindred. Nine holy things which would create all others.

Fire, Well and Omphalos

To the fire

Kindled of the hearth fire

Sacred flame upon the Earth

Joining together hearts and minds

Darkness banished before the roaring blaze

Transcending the realm of light and shadow

Purifier and cleanser of mind, body and spirit

Sacred fire, grow within this place!

Incense is offered to the fire.

To the well

Threshold to the Other world

Window to the souls

Cauldron of inspiration

Sacred shrine of old

Ford of cleansing waters

Vessel of rebirth

Sacred well, flow within this place!

Silver is offered to the well.

To the omphalos

Mighty omphalos,

Center of the cosmos,

Road to all realms,

Spanning all worlds.

Keeper of ancient knowledge

Sacred stone, joining Earth and Sky.

Let all who walk this way walk in your wisdom.

The omphalos is asperged with water from the well and censed with incense.

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

Born at the Dawning; Between night and day

Guardian of the Boundaries; We call you forth this day!

Summoner of the Souls and Messenger of the Gods.

Aid us as the worlds converge and we call our Kindred near.

An offering of Wine is made to Hermes.

Hermes, Opener of the Way, accept our offering!

All: Hermes, 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*

Hermes, merge now your magic with ours!
See the flame leaping forth from the fire.
See the mist arising from the well,
Flame and mist converging upon the center.
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 center, 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 that they may join us in celebration!

Allies of land, sea and sky!
Messengers to the Otherworld,
Protectors of this sacred ground.
Noble spirits, seen and unseen.
Join us as we celebrate the harvest!
Seeds are offered.
Nature Spirits, accept our offering!

All: Nature Spirits, be welcome among us!

Wise Ones of all the Worlds!
Beloved Dead of blood and spirit
Timeless heroes of myth and legend.
Ancestors of flesh and bone.
Join us as we celebrate the harvest!

Beer and Bread are offered.

Mighty Ones, accept our offering!

All: Mighty Ones, be welcome among us!

Deities of Might and Magic!
Eldest and Wisest of the Realms!
Bringers of life, death and rebirth.
Patrons and Matrons of those gathered here.
Join us as we celebrate the harvest!
Olive oil is offered.
Shining and Chthonic Ones, accept our offering!
All: Shining and Chthonic Ones, be welcome among us!

HONORING THE BEINGS OF THE OCCASION

We reach far beyond the borders of our cosmos to the Fairest of the Forest.

All Officials: Artemis, hear us!

Our voices arise upon the wind and deep within the wilds of the worlds to awaken the she-bear.

All Officials: Artemis, hear us!

Our hearts carry our intentions to places untouched by humankind to call forth the Virgin Huntress.

All Officials: Artemis, hear us!

We honor the will that wields the wild; the Lady of the Beasts approaches.

All Officials: Artemis, we honor you!

Artemis, accept our offering!

An offering of red wine is made to Artemis.

All: Artemis, be welcome among us!

PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS

At this time you may bring forth your offerings of praise to Artemis.

Group Offering

“Meeting a Spirit Animal Companion”

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;

We honor Artemis, as she walks among us.

Through communication with the Otherworld;

We receive her 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 Artemis this night.

We have sung her 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 all shall know of our devotion.

Great Goddess of Sacrifice, we honor you.

The final sacrifice is made by the Dedicant.

Artemis, accept our sacrifice!

All: Artemis, accept our sacrifice!

Piacular Offering

Beings of Land, Sea and Sky,

Those known and unknown,

Kin of the realms and worlds,

All who have joined us in this place,

If we have forgotten or offended any in our work this day.

Know that this was not our intention,

Accept our offering in recompense.

An offering of olive oil is made.

May there be peace between us!

THE OMEN

The Omen is taken by drawing three animal oracle cards. The Seer will draw and then interpret 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. While the omen is being taken Grollwynn will lead all present in the following chant.

Participants chant the following, sending their energies through the gates.

In song

Look into the well of memory

Look into the well of time

Look into the well of ages

I am yours, You are mine.

Listen to the ancient stories

*Listen to the ancient songs
Listen to the ancient wisdom
I go on, You go on*

*Deep within your hearts are beating
Deep within are hearts we know
Our descendants will remember
Our love flows, Your love flows.
(Words & music by Emerald)*

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.

Artemis, your blessings upon us!

All: Artemis, your blessings upon us!

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

Once again, Artemis, your blessings upon us!

All: Artemis, your blessings upon us!

We have brought our offerings. We have made sacrifice.

One last time, Artemis, your blessings upon us!

All: Artemis, your blessings upon us!

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

HALLOWING OF THE WATERS

Behold the Waters of Life!

Artemis, hear and bless us.

Lady of the Wild and Mistress of the Hunt, hallow these waters of life.

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 guest? _____. Then we shall drink deep the blessings of Artemis!

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 the Shining Ones let us raise our voices in song.

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)

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THANKING THE BEINGS

Virgin Huntress may you continue to grant us your wisdom of the wild. Artemis we thank you for the blessings you have given us. May there be peace between us until we meet once more by the hearth's fire. **(Final token of olive oil is made upon the fire)** Artemis, we thank you!

All: Artemis, we thank you!

Mighty Kindred may you continue to guide us, grant us your wisdom and bless our lives. Kindred we thank you for your

continuing aid. May there be peace between us until we meet once more by the hearth's fire. **(Final token of olive oil is made upon the fire)** Kindred, we thank you!

All: Kindred, we thank you!

Wise Ones, ancient, skilled Ones, we thank you for the wisdom and guidance you have offered us. May you continue to teach and inspire our hearts and minds. May there be peace between us until we meet once more by the hearth's fire. **(Final token of olive oil is made upon the fire)**, Elder Wise, we thank you!

All: Elder Wise, we thank you!

Apollo, Great God of the Muses, we thank you for the blessings of inspiration and eloquence you have shared with us. May there be peace between us until we meet once more by the hearth's fire. **(Final token of olive oil is made upon the fire)** Apollo, we thank you!

All: Apollo, we thank you!

CLOSING THE GATES

Hermes, Opener of the Gates, we thank you for your protection and guidance as we reached out through the Realms this day. May there be peace between us until we meet once more by the hearth's fire. **(Final token of olive oil is made upon the fire)** Hermes, we thank you!

All: Hermes, we thank you!

Hermes, Great Guardian of Boundaries, we now ask that you close 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!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

Powerful God of the Clear Sky, may you continue to provide the order and spark within us. Mighty Ruler of Olympus, we thank you for your strength and wisdom. May there be peace between us until we meet once more by the hearth's fire. **(Final token of olive oil is made upon the fire)** Zeus, we thank you!

All: Zeus, we thank you!

Hera, beautiful Goddess of the Earth, may you continue to create and sustain the potential within us. Mighty Queen of Olympus, we thank you for all life. May there be peace between us until we meet once more by the hearth's fire. **(Final token of olive oil is made upon the fire)** Hera, we thank you!

All: Hera, 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

Unmerging, Regrounding & Recentering: Meditation

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- Pan pipes sound 3 X 3

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 Song

(Carrion) Once more may we now raise our voices in song as we leave our Nemeton.

Hoof and Horn/Hoof and Horn

All that dies shall be reborn.

Corn and Grain/Corn and Grain

All that falls shall rise again.

Repeat 3X's

(Words and music by Ian Corrigan)

Special Thanks To:

All who shared in our Fall Feast ritual.

Stone Creed Grove, ADF for the chants

Come We Now As a People & Power of the Spirit

Unknown Author of the chant

Cauldron of Changes

Liafal for the chant

The Gatekeeper

Emerald for the chant

Well of Memory

Ceisiwr Serith for the text for recreating the cosmos.

Ian Corrigan

Hoof and Horn

*Whispering Lake Grove, ADF
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*Ritual text written by
(Unless otherwise credited)*

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