

Whispering Lake Grove ADF

Presents



Harvest Tide
September 20, 2009
6:00 PM

PREPARATION

GROVE ATTUNEMENT

Joining our hands and closing our eyes, take a few deep cleansing breaths (*pause 4 count*). We now stand together in Midgard, upon the land, beneath the sky, surrounded by the sea as we prepare to enter sacred time (*pause 4 count*).

Below us flows the primal waters, cold, dark and chaotic; filled with the potential of all life. Reaching far beneath you into the earth, draw upon the waters of life. Feel them as they pool within your belly, within your heart and finally within your head. (*pause 8 count*)

Above us burns the primal fires, warm, light and ordered; filled with the spark of all life. Reaching far beyond the sky into the heavens, draw upon the fires of all creation. Feel them as they illuminate your mind, your heart and finally your spirit. (*pause 8 count*)

The fires of the heavens ignite the waters of the earth within you and you become one with the cosmos. Feel the primal powers of fire and water as they surge through you. Your heart beats with the very pulse of all worlds (*pause 8 count*)

We share our world with the Spirits of Nature. Our Ancestors dwell in the Halls of the Gods. We are all cradled in the branches of the Yggdrasill. The fire and water that flows through our veins sustains the worlds, the realms and the Kindred.

As we open our eyes let us be one in this place!

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

In Song

Several officiants will lead the following spoken processional to the Nemeton. With in the Nemeton the Three Norns will be chanting, Weavers. The spoken and sung chanting will end upon Carrion's cue once all participants have entered the nemeton.

"Our fate is woven"..."Our fate is woven"..."Our fate is woven"...

In Song

Weaver, weaver, we are weaving the web of life.

Weaver, weaver, we are weaving the web of life.

Spirit weaver, bone weaver, breath weaver, stone weaver

We are weaving the web of life.

Spirit weaver, bone weaver, breath weaver, stone weaver

We are weaving the web of life.

(1994 Deirdre Pulgram Arthen, Andras Corban Arthen, Aine Arthen)

OPENING PRAYERS

Musical Signal- *A Thor's Hammer strikes the anvil 9 times.*

Striking the Anvil 3 times.

I am Urd recorder of all that has come to pass.

Striking the Anvil 3 times.

I am Verdandi shaper of all that is becoming.

Striking the Anvil 3 times.

I am Skuld weaver of all that will be.

Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

Earth Mother

kneeling upon the Earth

Ancient One of ever changing beauty

Primal Mother and Great Goddess of Sovereignty

We are renewed in your waters

Cradled within your mantel of green

And sustained by your abundance

Earth Mother, we honor you and offer you welcome!

An offering of milk and honey is made.

Earth Mother, accept our offering!

All: Earth Mother, All Hail and Welcome!

Sky Father

arms raised to the Heavens

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 One who wed the Mother of the Earth.

Sky Father we honor you and offer you welcome.

An offering of clarified butter is made.

Sky Father, accept our offering!

All: Sky Father, All Hail and Welcome!

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.

Divine Ones, accept our offering!

All: Divine Ones, All Hail and Welcome!

Invocation to the Elder Wise

An offering of incense is made.

Elder Wise, accept our offering!

All: Elder Wise, All Hail and Welcome!

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Historical Precedent

"The Three Norns"

Purpose of the Ritual

This eve we gather upon the Earth as one folk;

To welcome the Kindred as one people;

We assemble our kith, kin and clan beneath the Sky;

To make sacrifice to the Norns; that we may receive their blessings in return.

We join together this eve to celebrate the Feast of Harvest Tide

To honor the Three, who have woven our paths together.

This night we honor the Weavers of Fate as our families prepare for the long darkness of winter.

With the aid of the Norns we shall reflect upon those things which have been, those that are becoming in preparation for the future that lies ahead.

May all who gather be welcome among us!

CONSECRATION OF SPACE & PARTICIPANTS

Purification of Participants & Space

The aspersing bowl is filled from the Well and the censor 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 Carrion will step forward saying:

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

Outdwellers

Weaving the Druids Mist

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 welcome the Kindred as one people.

THE SACRED CENTER

Affirmation of Unity

In song & Yes, with the dance.

*We are a circle moving
One with another, we are
Moving together, we are one.*

*We are a circle moving
One with another, we are
Moving together, we are one.*

*I am spirit, and I flow in you.
You are spirit and you flow in me.
(Words and music by Marae Price)
Repeat chant 3 times*

Establishing Sacred Time

In the beginning so too in the end; there was but fire and ice
And between them a vast emptiness.
To the North the ice and snow of Niflheim, frigid winds and
fearsome storms ravaged the land.
To the South the fires of Muspell, molten and glowing the dancing
flames consumed all that lay before them.
In the vast emptiness the warm breath of Muspell mingled with the
ice of Niflheim. The warm winds began to melt the ice and tiny
drops of water began to form. Within the tiny drops of water new
life began to stir and the powers to destroy life became the powers
that created it.

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

(D1)

Upon the windy Tree hung the Wanderer,

(D2)

Seeking the wisdom of the past.

(D1)

For nine long nights Harr journeyed alone,

(D3)

Seeking the knowledge of the present.

(D1)

With unyielding strength Odin sacrificed himself,

(D4)

Seeking the vision of the future.

(D1)

Oh, Rider of the Yggdrasil,
Merge your magic with my own,
Wield the Words of Power,
From your high and mighty throne.

Vodka is offered to Odin

Odin, accept our offering!

All: Odin, All Hail and Welcome!

(D2) 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

(D1) *Carrion begins a Galder chant for ansuz.*

Odin, let us stand at the center of all worlds!

Sacred Fires of the heavens, burn within this place.

Primal Waters of the earth, flow within this place.

World Tree joining earth and sky, grow within this place.

Striking a sigil over the fire.

Let this fire carry our praise and sacrifice to the Shining Ones.

Striking a sigil over the well.

Let this well 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!

(D1)

Let the Gates Be Open!

All: Let the Gates Be Open!

(D1)

We now stand at the center of all worlds!

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 Midgard!

Bright and shining messengers to the Otherworld

Protectors of this sacred ground.

Light Alfs, House Ghosts and Wights,

Nature Spirits, All Hail and Welcome!

Alcohol is offered.

Wise Ones of the Nine Worlds!
Beloved Dead of blood and spirit
Ancestors of flesh and bone
Alfar and Disir, All Hail and Welcome!

Alcohol is offered.

Eldest and Brightest of Asgard!
Deities of Might and Magic
Bringers of life, death and rebirth.
Mighty Aesir and Bountiful Vanir
Shining Ones, All Hail and Welcome!

Alcohol is offered.

The alcohol is ignited in offering.

Let us now raise our voices in song to the Kindred.

Hail all the Gods,

Hail all the Goddesses,

Hail all the Holy Ones,

We dwell together.

Lords of the sky,

Ladies of the sacred earth,

Spirits and the ancestors,

We dwell together.

Repeat chant 3x

© *Words by Paul Maurice. Music by Paul Maurice, Sean Miller and Gail Williams*

Mighty Kindred, accept our offerings!

All: Mighty Kindred, All Hail and Welcome!

HONORING THE DEITIES OF THE RITE

The Three Norns

To those who shape what must be...
And determine a new born's destiny...
Weaving the fates of all mankind..
Recording each life's span in time...

For that which has happened we call to Urd..
For that which is becoming Verdandi is heard..
To Skuld we seek that which is to be..
We call the Wise Women neath the ancient tree.

Norns, accept our offering!

An offering of 3 Golden (Yellow) apples are made to the Norns.

All: Norns, All Hail and Welcome!

PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS

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

Seasonal Enactment

Weaving together a grove and tribe is much like the Norns weaving the web of fate for it touches us all. As we weave our own web this eve, let us remember the challenges of the past, celebrate what we have built in the here and now, and look forward to all we will accomplish in the future.

The Norn officiants will begin to weave the web throughout the participants as the Bard leads the following chant.

Weaver, weaver, we are weaving the web of life.

Weaver, weaver, we are weaving the web of life.

Spirit weaver, bone weaver, breath weaver, stone weaver

We are weaving the web of life.

Spirit weaver, bone weaver, breath weaver, stone weaver

We are weaving the web of life.

(1994 Deirdre Pulgram Arthen, Andras Corban Arthen, Aine Arthen)

The true strength of a grove and tribe is its diversity. Each of us brings our own uniqueness to this web. It is indeed what makes us strong.

We have woven our own web of fate this eve under the watchful eye of the Norns. But, the weaving of this web began long before tonight! This web is but a physical symbol of the work of our grove and tribe. If a strand of this web is plucked, each of us is touched by the vibrations, some more than others, but touched all the same.

We can not take this symbol with us, but we can each take a piece of it. May we remember the work of our grove and tribe and the fate we have woven together this night.

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

An officiant will pass the final sacrifice to the participant prior to the sacrifice being made so that each person has an opportunity to give energy to the item.

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;
We honor the Three Norns, as they walk among us.
Through communication with the Otherworld;
We receive their guidance, inspiration and insight.
Tonight we call out from the crossroads to our guests 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 the Norns this night.

We have sung their 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.

Urd, Verdandi and Skuld, we honor you.

The final sacrifice is made.

Norns, accept our sacrifice!

All: Norns, accept our sacrifice!

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

Let us raise our voices in song to the Norns as they reveal their will.

In song

Through time and tide

Through waters wide

By blood and bone

By stock and stone

By breath and breeze

By fire that frees

(Words by Diana Paxson)

THE OMEN

The Omen is taken by drawing three Runes. 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 Beings of the Occasion.

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.

(D1) 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.

(D2) We will drink deep of the Cup of Inspiration. May the blessings of health, wealth and wisdom be ours.

(D1) Norns your blessings upon us!

All: Norns your blessings upon us!

(D2) We gather with you between Earth and Sky. We are proud to call ourselves your people.

(D1) Once again, Norns your blessings upon us!

All: Norns your blessings upon us!

(D2) We have brought our offerings. We have made sacrifice.

(D1) One last time, Norns your blessings upon us!

All: Norns your blessings upon us!

(D3) *The pitchers are lifted saluting the fire, well and tree.*

HALLOWING OF THE WATERS

(D3) Behold the Waters of Life!

(D1) Urd, Verdandi and Skuld hear and bless us.

(D2) Wise Maidens, Shapers of our Fate, hallow these Waters of Life.

(D3) *lifts the pitchers before the participants.*

(D3) Behold the Waters of Life!

All: Behold the Waters of Life!

AFFIRMATION OF THE BLESSINGS

(D1) Now Children of Earth & Sky, do you wish to receive the blessings the Three Norns have for us this night? _____ . Then we shall drink deep their 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 we receive the blessing of the Shining Ones let us raise our voices in song.

In song

Back to the River, back to the Sea

Back to the Ocean, home to thee

Back through my blood, back through my veins.

Back to my heartbeat, all the same.

(By Abbi Spinner)

Repeat until the horns have been passed to all participants.

THE WORK

(Norn 1) This night we stand beneath the Yggdrasill and before the Well of Urd. Your Wyrð woven one with another by your own hand.

Who among you dares to face the Wyrð of your past deeds.

(Norn 2) Who among you dares to face the Wyrð of the present, woven from your past.

(Norn 3) And finally, who among you has the courage to face that which has yet to be woven.

A drum beat begins. Participants bring forth a question to Norn 2 who is holding a bag of Rune. Each participant asks a question over the bag and Norn 2 draws a rune in response. Norn 3 inscribes the rune on a pendant and the participant seeks Norn 1 for an interpretation of the rune drawn. Once all participants have had an opportunity to receive an answer to their question...

(Norn 1)

Children of Earth and Sky, today we have reflected upon the past,

celebrated in the present and peeked into the future. May the Norns guide us, grant us wisdom and bless us as we prepare to walk the path that has been laid before us.

THANKING THE BEINGS

Wise Maidens of the Yggdrasil, Shapers of What Must Be, we thank you for weaving your magic here this eve.

(a final token is offered) May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Norns, we thank you!

Mighty Kindred of land, sea and sky, Eldest and Brightest of the Nine Worlds. Aesir and Vanir; Alfar and Disir and Alf, House Ghost and Wights. 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!

Elder Wise,We thank you for the wisdom you have offered us. **(A final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Elder Wise, we thank you!

Divine Ones, 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.

All: Divine Ones, we thank you!

CLOSING THE GATES

Odin, One Eyed Wanderer; we thank you for your protection and

guidance this night. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire

All: Odin, we thank you!

Odin, Mighty Magician of the Dead, we now ask that you aid us once more as we close the gates, warding the way between the worlds.

Striking a sigil over the fire

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

Striking a sigil over the well

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

Striking a 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!

All: Let the Gates be closed!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

Ancient Mystery of the Sky, may you continue to show us the way to courage and right. Bright Father of the Aesir, we thank you for the spark of creativity you share with us. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Sky Father, we thank you!

Primal Mother of Earth, may you continue to support and sustain us. Ancient Mother, 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: Earth Mother, 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

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. We are all cradled in the branches of the Yggdrasil.

Take of the powers that flow within you what you need and release back into 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 Thor's Hammer strikes the anvil 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.

Walk With Wisdom

Walk with wisdom, from this hallowed place

Walk not in sorrow, our roots shall ere embrace.

May strength be your brother, and honor be your friend,

And luck be your lover, until we meet again.

Words and music by Sable

Special Thanks To:

All who attended, participated and shared in our Harvest Tide celebration.

Marae Price for the chant We Are a Circle

Stone Creed Grove, ADF for the chants The Portal Song.

Liafal for the chant The Gatekeeper

Paul Maurice, Sean Miller and Gail Williams for the chant Hail all the Gods

Diana Paxson for the chant Through Time and Tide

*Deirdre Pulgram Arthen, Andras Corban Arthen, Aine Arthen
for the chant Weavers.*

Abbi Spinner for the chant Back to the River

Ceisiwr Serith for the text for recreating the cosmos.

Sable for the chant, Walk With Wisdom

***Whispering Lake Grove, ADF
Harvest Tide Ritual
2009***

*Ritual text written by
(Unless otherwise credited)*

Rev. Raven & Carrion Mann

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