

# Whispering Lake Grove ADF



## Summer Solstice Ritual “Fire, Fire, Fire”

June 14, 2009

2:00 PM

### **PREPARATION**

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#### 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)*

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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!

***An offering is made to Manannan.***

Manannan, accept our offering!

**All:** Manannan, be welcome among us!

### PROCESSION

#### ***In Song***

*The waters flow around us  
The fires burn within us  
Standing tall, we gather at the center of the world.  
Upon the Earth our mother  
We worship her together  
All as we gather at the center of the world.*

***Words and music by Emerald***

***Repeat until all participants have entered the worship area.***

***Participants will be censured and asperged as they enter the  
Nemeton.***

### OPENING PRAYERS

Musical Signal- *Zills are used 9 times for the musical signal.*

### Lighting of the Householder Fire

***The householder fire is lit.***

Now get dressed in your robes, lord of powers and master of the  
sacrificial food, and offer this sacrifice for us.

When we offer sacrifice to this god or that god, in the full line of  
order, it is to you alone that the oblation is offered.

Let him be a beloved lord of tribes for us, a favourite, kindly  
invoker; let us have a good fire and be beloved.

For when the gods have a good fire, they bring us what we wish  
for. Let us pray with a good fire. (O'Flaherty 100)

### Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

Sky and earth,

the all knowing father and mother who achieve wondrous works-  
let them swell up with food to nourish us.

Let the two world-halves, that work together to give benefits to  
all, together trust toward us gain, and the victory prize, and  
wealth (O'Flaherty 206-07).

***Clarified butter is offered upon the fire and milk to the Earth.***

Earth Mother and Sky Father, accept our offering!

**All:** Earth Mother and Sky Father, Be Welcome Among Us!

### Invocation for Bardic Inspiration

We call to the poets of the ancient hymns.

To the eloquent composers of praise.

We call to those whose songs provide timeless inspiration.

To the Wise Ones whose words fill the *Vedas*.

Mighty Ones, aid us; inspire us; lend us your skill;

That our voices may carry our praise to the Kindred.

***Clarified butter is offered***

Wise Ones, accept our offering!

All: Wise Ones, Be Welcome Among Us!

## **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

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Today we gather at the center of all worlds.

To worship and honor Agni.

We shall sing his praise and make our sacrifice.

Seeking his blessings in return.

We gather to celebrate the Summer Solstice.

To honor the very existence of the fire in our lives.

We celebrate the sun's at the height of its power,

Enjoying the warmth and light of the world around us.

May all who gather this day be welcome among us!

## **CONSECRATION OF SPACE & PARTICIPANTS**

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Outdwellers (*at the Southern fire a token is laid for the Outdwellers*)

*Raven will address the Outdweller of the pantheon as brands of fire from the fire of the Father are taken around the edges of the Nemeton to purify and claim the space.*

## **THE SACRED CENTER**

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Affirmation of Unity

*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, Music by Frigga Asraat)*

Establishing Sacred Time

Order and truth were born from heat as it blazed up.

From that was born night; from the heat was born the billowy ocean.

From the billowy ocean was born the year, that arranges days and nights, ruling over all that blinks its eyes.

The Arranger has set in their proper place the sun and moon, the sky and the earth, the middle realm of space, and finally the sunlight (O'Flaherty 34).

Fire, Well & Tree or Fire, Fire, Fire

*To the Householder fire an offering of wood and butter is made.*

Flame of our hearths and of our homes.

Great provider of warmth and light we honor you;

Carry forth our praise and sacrifice to the Kindred.

Let your spark forever live within our hearts.

*The Fire of the Fathers is lit from the Householder fire and an offering of wood and butter is made.*

Flame of the Fathers and of our Beloved Dead.

Great protector of timeless wisdom we honor you.

Carry forth our praise and sacrifice to the Kindred.

Let your spark forever live within our minds.

*The Sacrificial Fire is lit from the Householder fire and an offering of wood and butter is made.*

Flame of the Divine and of the Highest Heavens.

Great transformer and voice of the people to the Gods.

Carry forth our praise and sacrifice to the Kindred.

Let your spark forever light our way within this world.

May our fires have the power to transcend all realms!

## **COMPLETING THE COSMOLOGY**

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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**

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### Invocation to the Gatekeeper

Indra, Most Magnificent Warrior and Gracious God;  
It is your might and magic that wards the threshold.  
Great Thunderer; this day we ask for your aid and protection as  
the worlds converge upon this place and Agni's power grows.

*A offering of clarified butter is made.*

Indra, Mighty Champion and King, accept our offering!

**All:** Indra, Be Welcome Among Us!

### Opening the Gates

Indra, merge now your magick with ours!

Fire of the hearth, grow within this place.

Fire of the fathers, grow within this place.

Fire of sacrifice, grow within this place.  
See these fires converge forming a gateway transcending all  
realms.

*Striking a sigil over the householder fire.*

Let the flames of the hearth fire forever carry our praise and  
sacrifice to the Kindred.

*Striking a sigil over the fire of the fathers.*

Let the fire of the fathers carry forth our praise and sacrifice to  
the Ancestors.

*Striking a sigil over the sacrificial fire.*

Let the fire of sacrifice transform our offerings and convey our  
praise to the Gods.

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**

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

In this Middle realm we share our world with many spirits.  
Creatures that have given their aid to humans since ancient  
times; providing transportation, food, and shelter to our  
Ancestors.

They serve our Gods and protect this sacred ground.

Sacred tree and herb; mighty horse and bull; great eagle, Noble  
Ones we call to you.

Noble Spirits, accept our offering!

*Seeds are offered.*

Noble Spirits, Be Welcome Among Us!

Sit upon this strewn grass, O Yama, together with the fathers.  
Let the verses chanted by the poets carry you here. O King,  
rejoice in this oblation. Come Yama, with the Ancestors worthy

of sacrifice:

Let our Ancestors all be worthy of soma-

Let us remain in favour with them, as they are worthy of sacrifice, and let them be helpful and kind. (O'Flaherty )

Ancestors accept our offering!

***Clarified butter is offered.***

Ancestors, Be Welcome Among Us!

Not one of you, gods, is small, not one a little child; all of you are truly great.

Therefore you are worthy of praise and of sacrifice, you thirty-three gods of Manu, arrogant and powerful.

Protect us, help us and speak for us; do not lead us into the distance far away from the path of our father Manu.

You gods who are all here and who belong to all men, give far-reaching shelter to us.

Shining Ones, accept our offering!

***Clarified butter is offered.***

Shining Ones, Be Welcome Among Us!

## **HONORING THE DEITY OF THE RITE**

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### Agni

Young Agni, take your place as our favourite priest with inspiration and shining speech.

The father sacrifices for his son, the comrade for his comrade, the favourite friend for his friend.

May Varuna, Mitra and Aryaman, proud of their powers, sit upon our sacred grass, as upon Manu's.

***Grasses are spread before the Ancestor post.***

You who were the first to invoke, rejoice in our friendship and hear only these songs.

So let praises flow back and forth between the two, between us who are mortals and you, the immortal.

Agni, young spawn of strength, with all the fires take pleasure

in this sacrifice and in this speech. (O'Flaherty 100)

***Clarified butter is offered.***

Agni, accept our offering!

**All:** Agni, Be Welcome Among Us!

## **PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS**

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

***(Once all personal praise offerings have been made to the Deities of the Occasion the Group will offer praise)***

## **PRAYER OF SACRIFICE**

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Through our praise, love and sacrifice;

We honor Agni, 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 Agni this day.

We have sung his praise; made our sacrifice.

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

Agni, we honor you.

***The final sacrifice is made.***

Agni, accept our sacrifice!

**All:** Agni, accept our sacrifice!

## **THE OMEN**

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***The Omen is taken by bowstrings. 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 Deity of the Occasion.***

Join me once more as we raise our voices in song as our honored guest reveals her will.

***In song***

*Fire, bright Fire*

*Gate to the Shining Ones*

*Fire, bright Fire*

*Our passage to the Sky*

*Fire, bright Fire*

*Warmth of our Community*

*Spark of Life*

*We honor you now*

***Words & music by Pandora***

## **CALLING FOR THE BLESSING**

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***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.

Waters, you are the ones who bring us the life force.

(O'Flaherty 231)

Indra, Release the Waters!

**All:** Indra, Release the Waters!

Waters, help us to find nourishment so that we may look upon great joy. (O'Flaherty 231)

Once again, Indra, Release the Waters!

**All:** Indra, Release the Waters!

Let them cause well-being and health to flow over us!

(O'Flaherty 231)

One last time, Indra, Release the Waters!

**All:** Indra, Release the Waters!

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

## **HALLOWING OF THE WATERS**

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Behold the Waters of Life!

Indra hear and bless us.

Indra, Gracious God Who Released the Seven Rivers, 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**

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Now Good folk, do you wish to receive the blessings of Indra this day? \_\_\_\_\_. Then we shall drink deep the blessings of the waters!

***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 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.*

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***Repeat until the horns have been passed to all participants.***

## THANKING THE BEINGS

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Agni, Great God of Fire. May you continue warm our hearths, protect our homes and inspire us with your spark. Agni, we thank you for your blessings this eve. **(a final token of butter is offered to the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

**All:** Agni, we thank you!

Mighty Kindred of land, sea and sky, Eldest and Brightest of the Worlds. 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 of butter is offered to the fire)**. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

**All:** Kindred, we thank you!

Wise Ones, may your words continue to be an inspiration to us. Mighty composer of eloquent praise, we thank for the blessings you have shared with us. **(a final token of butter is offered to the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

**All:** Wise Ones, we thank you!

## CLOSING THE GATES

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Indra, Mighty Warrior and Weilder of the Lightning Bolt; we thank you for your aid and protection this day. **(a final token of butter is offered to the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire

**All:** Indra, we thank you!

Indra, Great Guardian of Cosmos, we now ask that you, ward the way between the worlds once more.

Mighty Agni, may all that is be what was, that it may be again.  
Let the Gates Be Closed!

## THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

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Ancient Mystery of the Sky, may you continue to show us the way to courage and right. Bright Father of the daylight sky, we thank you for your sacrifice. us.**(a final token of butter is offered to the fire)** 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 grant us peace and plenty. Ancient Mother, we thank you for all life. us.**(a final token of butter is offered to the fire)** 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

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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 ash 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 this land **(pause)**. See this energy heal and protect her as we conclude our worship.

Musical Signal- *Zills are used 9 times for the musical signal.*

**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 Midsummer celebration.*

*Stone Creed Grove, ADF for the chants*

*Pour the Waters*

*Diana Paxson & Frigga Asraat for the words and music for the chant Time and Tide.*

*Emerald for the chant Center of the World*

*Pandora for the chant The Verticle Axis Chant*

*Ceisiwr Serith for the text for recreating the cosmos*

*Sable for the chant Walk With Wisdom*



*Whispering Lake Grove  
Vedic Summer Solstice Ritual  
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*Ritual text written by  
(Unless otherwise credited)*

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