

# Lughnassadh - 2017

Protogrove of the Whispering Spirits

July 30, 2017

## 1 Offerings

This section describes the offerings made to the various hallows, the Kindred and the attendees of the rite.

- Outdwellers: Ale
- Purification: Water
- Danu: Pinhead Oats
- Fire: Incense
- Well: Silver
- Tree: Water from the Well
- Gatekeeper: Apple
- Gods: Alcohol
- Nature Spirits: Milk & Honey
- Ancestors: Bread
- Lugh: Raspberries
- Final Sacrifice: Mead
- Waters of Life: Mead & Apple Juice

## 2 Initiating the Rite (Dale)

\*{Drummer}: Drum as participants circle around the area

{Horn Blower}: *After all have circled the area and the drum stops, blow horn 3 times, then speak*

{Speaker}: *Speaks after horn call*

Once again we have gathered together as one people, to honor our Kindred and celebrate the changing of the seasons.

Around us the spirits of nature move, amongst us our ancestors gather and before us our gods stand tall.

At this time, in this place, we set aside all that we brought with us. We focus our thoughts and our actions on this moment while we commune with the Kindred.

### **3 Outdwellers (Lisa)**

*{Speaker}: Moves just outside the perimeter*

Fomorians! You who come from the outer dark,  
You who stood against the gods and man,  
You who are cold of heart and cruel of mind,  
Take this and trouble not our work.

*{Speaker}: Leaves ale outside of ritual space*

### **4 Purification (Rick)**

*{Speaker}: Walks around asperging the congregants while speaking*

As the water falls on you, may it bring peace and purity of purpose.

### **5 Meditation (Lisa)**

*Tree Meditation* by Karl F. Steinmayor (c) 1986. *Druids Progress #4* pp. 123–124.

### **6 Honoring the Earth Mother (Rick)**

*{Speaker}: Distribute grain to participants*

Great Danu, our life is nourished from your bounty. You give the food that nourishes us, the wealth that enriches us, even the very ground we walk on.

Joy and prosperity flow from you, and it is you who sustains us. We honor you now. We thank you for the bounty you bestow upon all of us.

Great Danu accept this offering.

*{All}: Place grain in the fire*

### **7 Statement of Purpose (Dale)**

*{Questioner}:*

Why are we here?

*{Speaker}:*

We are here to celebrate Lughnasadh!

*{Questioner}:*

Why are we here?

*{Speaker}:*

We are here to remember the turning of the wheel. The better half of summer has passed, and before us looms the dog days of merciless heat.

*{Questioner}:*

Why are we here?

*{Speaker}:*

We are here to honor Lugh Lámfada, Lugh of the Long Arm, Lugh, King of the Tuatha Dé Danann. We honor him for his leadership and battle prowess with which he used to lead the Tuatha Dé Danann to victory over the Fomorians and the slaying of Balor Birugderc, Balor of the Piercing Eye.

## 8 Recreating the Cosmos (Lisa/Rick)

*{Singer}: Portal Song by Ian Corrigan*

*{Assistant}: Moves to the bowl. After "... and silver we bring" place the silver in the well.*

*{Assistant}: Moves to the fire. After "... and offering pour" pours some oil into the fire.*

*{Assistant}: Moves to the tree or bile. Sprinkles water from the well on it.*

## 9 Opening the Gates (Dale)

*{Speaker}: Addressing the Gatekeeper*

Fáilte Manannán Mac Lir. Welcome Manannán, son of the sea.

We give praise and honor to you, o mighty god who walks between the worlds with ease. You who wreathes yourself in mist, and frequent the liminal places of the world, we call to you.

Lend your might to ours, and aid us in opening the gates between the worlds. Manannán accept our offering!

*{Speaker}: Places the offering into the fire*

Manannán, make the Sacred Fire a gate! Manannán, make the Well a gate!  
Manannán, make the World Tree a gate!

Let the gates be opened!

*{All}:*

Let the gates be opened!

## 10 Inviting the Kindred

### 10.1 Inviting the Nature Spirits (Laura)

*{Speaker}:*

Fáilte Sídh. Welcome Nature Spirits. We make space at our fire for The Good people, for the spirits of this land, of its plants and trees, its birds and beasts and its waters.

Sídh, accept this offering.

*{Speaker}: Places the offering next to the World Tree*

You who have dwelled in this land before man, who protect it, who nurture it.

*{Speaker}: Call*

We remember you.

*{All}: Response*

We honor you.

*Repeat Call/Response for a total of 3 times*

### 10.2 Inviting the Ancestors (Lisa)

*{Speaker}:*

Fáilte Sinsearach. Welcome Ancestors. We make space at our fire for our mighty ancestors, for our honored ancestors, and for our beloved ancestors.

Sinsearach, accept this offering.

*{Speaker}: Places offering next to the Well*

You who are of our blood and bone, you who are of our spirit and heart, you who have walked this world and left it before us.

*{Speaker}: Call*

We remember you.

*{All}: Response*

We honor you.

*Repeat Call/Response for a total of 3 times*

### 10.3 Inviting the Gods (Laura)

*{Speaker}:*

Fáilte Túath Dé Dannan. Welcome to our gods. We make space at our fire for the Túath dé Dannan, for the gods of our people, and the gods of this land.

Gods, goddesses, accept this offering.

*{Speaker}: Pours offering into the fire*

You who nurture our spirits, you who challenge us to grow, you who we return to when we pass from this world.

*{Speaker}: Call*

We remember you.

*{All}: Response*

We honor you.

*Repeat Call/Response for a total of 3 times*

### 11 Key Offerings (Dale)

*{Speaker}:*

A flaming spear out of the chaos,  
Lugh Lámhfhada, come to your people.  
A skillful hand against the chaos,  
Lugh Lámhfhada, come to your people.  
A mind keenly ordered amid the chaos,  
Lugh Lámhfhada, come to your people.  
A faithful protector through all the chaos,  
Lugh Lámhfhada, come to your people.  
Healer, craftsman, singer, and warrior,  
Lugh Lámhfhada, Lugh Lámhfhada, Lugh Lámhfhada,  
Come to your people.

Fáilte Lugh Lámhfhada; Fáilte Lugh Samildánach!

*{Speaker}: Call*

We remember you.

*{All}: Response*

We honor you.

*Repeat Call/Response for a total of 3 times*

*{Speaker}: Tell story about Lugh*

*{Speaker}: Give offering to Lugh*

## **12 Prayer of Sacrifice (Dale)**

*{Speaker}:*

Kindred, we welcome you amongst us. Through each ritual, each prayer, we grow closer to you. Accept this final offering, let it rise up, and with it, our words to your ears.

*{Speaker}: Places offering into the fire*

Kindred, accept our offering.

## **13 The Omen (Rick)**

*{Speaker}: To the oracle*

Oracle, do the Kindred accept our offerings?

Oracle, what blessings do the Kindred offer us for this season?

*{Oracle}: Draws and interprets the omen*

## **14 Calling for the Blessings (Dale)**

*{Speaker}:*

Kindred, we have made you welcome at our fire, we have honored you, and we have gifted you with offerings. From the oracle, we have heard your blessings, and we seal our relationship with the Waters of Life.

## **15 Hallowing the Blessings (Dale)**

*{Speaker}: Fills the horn then speaks.*

By the sinsearach, the Sídhe, and the Tuath Dé Dannan; by Lugh, the master of all arts, hallowed are these waters. Let those who drink of them find the bounty of summer within their lives.

Offerings we have given, and an offerings we have been given in return. Behold the Waters of Life!

## **16 Affirming the Blessings (Dale)**

*{Speaker, then remaining worshipers}: Raises the horn, speaks then drinks (or pours a small amount on the ground/in the fire) and passes the horn to the next worshiper.*

I accept the blessings of the Kindred.

*{Speaker}: Speaks then pauses for a moment.*

Let us reflect a moment on the blessings of the Kindred.

## **17 Workings**

*None*

## **18 Thanking the Kindred**

### **18.1 Thanking the DotO (Dale)**

*{Speaker}:*

Lugh, we thank you for sharing our fire, and may your wise leadership find a place in our world.

### **18.2 Thanking the Gods (Laura)**

*{Speaker}:*

Túath dé Dannan, gods of this place, we thank you for sharing our fire, and may our relationship with you continue to deepen.

### **18.3 Thanking the Ancestors (Lisa)**

*{Speaker}:*

Sinsearach, both new and old, we thank you for sharing our fire, and may our actions in this world bring honor to you.

### **18.4 Thanking the Nature Spirits (Laura)**

*{Speaker}:*

Good People, we thank you for sharing our fire, and may you look kindly on us in our future meetings.

## **19 Closing the Gates (Dale)**

*{Speaker}:*

Manannán, as our rite draws to a close, we again turn to you; assist us in closing the gates.

*{Speaker}: Moves to the tree*

Let this gate return to a tree.

*{Speaker}: Moves to the well*

Let this gate return to a cauldron.

*{Speaker}: Moves to the fire*

Let this gate return to the fire.

Let the gates be closed!

*{All}:*

Let the gates be closed!

## **20 Thanking the Earth Mother (Rick)**

*{Speaker}:*

We thank the Great Danu for all she has given and done for us. We now return all that we did not use back to the earth. May Danu continue to provide for all of us. We thank you.

## **21 Closing the Rite (Lisa/Dale)**

*Tree Meditation (Closing)* by Karl F. Steinmayor (c) 1986. *Druids Progress #4* pp. 123–124

*{Speaker}:*

Our time of communion with the Kindred draws to a close, and cares of mundane world began to assert themselves over us once again.

Let us take the blessings of the Kindred, back into the world, and remember our connection to the divine.

We have come together as we have done before and shall do again. Until next we meet, may peace and prosperity be upon you.

*{Horn Blower}: Blow horn 3 times*

End of Rite