

Morning Service & Prayer Requests

Three Bows

With utmost sincerity,

I pay homage to the eternal Triple Gem,
throughout the ten directions of the Dharma realm.

Verse of Repentance

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All the evil deeds

I have committed in the past
Arose from beginningless greed, anger, and delusion,
Born from the body, speech, and mind,
I now confess them all. ❖

Making the Great Aspiration

I make sincere vows to the Great Sage, the Tathagata

May all Buddhas and Bodhisattvas descend and manifest their presence.
Through reciting the wondrous sutras and secret divine mantras,
May the merits generated multiply and bring joy in the Dharma.
May the world be at peace, and all people enjoy abundance and happiness.
May the Dharma be upheld, and all nations be protected.
May all boundless virtuous aspirations be fulfilled,
Bringing equal benefit to all beings throughout the Dharma realm. ❖

Opening the Sutra

The supreme, profound, and wonderful Dharma,

So rare to encounter even in hundreds of thousands of eons,
Now I see, hear, and receive it.
May I comprehend the true meaning of the Tathagata's teachings. ❖

Divine Powers Chapter

The Wonderful Dharma Flower Sutra, Divine Powers of the Tathagata, Chapter 21.

Thereupon the Bhagavat, wanting to elaborate on the meaning of this further, spoke these verses:

The buddhas, world-inspirers, abiding in their great transcendent powers,
manifest this immeasurable power in order to gladden sentient beings.

Their tongues reach up to the Brahma world and they emit innumerable rays of light from their bodies. They manifest this marvel for those who seek for

the buddha path. The coughing and snapping sounds of the buddhas are universally heard in the lands of the ten directions. The earth quakes in six ways.

Because this sutra can be preserved after the nirvana of the Buddha, all the buddhas rejoice and manifest their immeasurable transcendent powers. Even if, for immeasurable kalpas, they praise those who preserve this sutra, in order to entrust it, they will not reach the limit of their merit. The qualities of those people are limitless and endless, just like the boundless sky in the ten directions.

Those who preserve this sutra have already seen me, the Buddha Prabhūtaratna, and the various magically created forms; and today they see all the bodhisattvas I have led and inspired up until now.

Those who preserve this sutra will gladden me, my magically created forms, as well as the Buddha Prabhūtaratna who has entered nirvana. They will also see, gladden, and pay homage to the past and future buddhas, and those who are present in the ten directions.

Those who preserve this sutra will before long attain the Dharma, the hidden essence, which was attained by the buddhas seated upon the terrace of enlightenment.

Those who preserve this sutra will explain the meaning of the Dharma, the names and phrases, joyfully and with undying vigor, like the wind in the sky that has no obstruction whatsoever.

After the parinirvāṇa of the Tathāgata, they will know the causes and conditions and the sequences of the sutras taught by the Buddha, and will explain the truth in accordance with its meaning. As the light of the sun and moon eliminates the darkness, these people practicing in the world will extinguish the blindness of sentient beings, teaching innumerable bodhisattvas to dwell ultimately in the single vehicle.

For this reason, the wise, hearing of the benefits of these merits, should preserve this sutra after my nirvana. Those people will be resolute and will unwaveringly follow the buddha path. ❖

Heart Sutra

MAHA PRAJNA PARAMITA HRDAYA SUTRA

Avalokiteshvara Bodhisattva doing deep prajna paramita, clearly saw emptiness of all five conditions, thus completely relieving misfortune and pain.

O Shariputra, form is no other than emptiness, emptiness no other than form; form is exactly emptiness, emptiness exactly form; Sensation, conception, discrimination, awareness are likewise like this.

O Shariputra, all dharmas are forms of emptiness. Not born, not destroyed, not stained, not pure, without loss, without gain; so in emptiness there is no form, no sensation, conception, discrimination, awareness;

No eye, ear, nose, tongue, body, mind; no color, sound, smell, taste, touch, phenomena; no realm of sight, no realm of consciousness, no ignorance and no end of ignorance; no old age and death, no end to old age and death; no suffering, no cause of suffering.

No extinguishing, no path, no wisdom, and no gain. No gain and thus the Bodhisattva lives prajna paramita, with no hindrance in the mind, no hindrance, therefore no fear, far beyond deluded thoughts this is Nirvana. All past, present, and future Buddhas live prajna paramita, and therefore attain annuttara-samyak-sambodhi.

Therefore know, prajna paramita is the great mantra, the vivid mantra, the best mantra, the unsurpassed mantra, it completely clears all pain. This is the truth, not a lie. So set forth the prajna paramita mantra, set forth this mantra and say:

Gate gate paragate parasamgate bodhi svaha

Gate gate paragate parasamgate bodhi svaha

Gate gate paragate parasamgate bodhi svaha

MAHA PRAJNA PARAMITA HRDAYA SUTRA ❖

Prayer Request

Homage to Shakyamuni Tathagata, the most kind teacher.

Homage to Bhaishajyaguru Tathagata of the Pure Crystal World.

Homage to Amitabha Tathagata, Teacher of Pure Land of Ultimate Bliss.

Homage to all holy assemblies of the two mandalas.

Homage to the Wonderful Dharma Flower, the true and pure Dharma Gate.

Homage to the noble Nagarjuna, who illuminated the truth of the Middle Way.

Homage to the great Translator and dharma pilgrim Xuanzang, who brought the light of Dharma east.

Homage to practitioners, great and humble, for their countless efforts in transmission and translation across the continents.

Homage to the successive ancestors of the Buddha Dharma for their compassionate grace.

Life after life, world after world, may we have the opportunity to meet and honor a multitude of teachers and spiritual friends.

I offer the merits and power of these sacred recitations and secret mantras to those above. May the world be peaceful and tranquil, the seasons and rains in harmony, and an abundance of harvests, and may all people be blessed with happiness.

- May the wishes of the devout disciple of Buddha, (Name) of (Residence) be fulfilled :
- Respectfully, I pray for each household of the participants today, (date) :

May they be free of all disasters and have long lives.

May the family's good fortune prosper and flourish.

(May there be peace and safety in their home.)

(May they prosper in their communities.)

(May their business thrive and grow.)

(May they experience safe and peaceful travel.)

May the seven misfortunes be extinguished and seven blessings quickly arise.

May all their wishes be fulfilled.



Principal Deity Veneration & Mantra

(as appropriate, repeat as you wish)



Lotus Sutra Dedication Verse

May the virtues and merit reach all equally.

Together, may I and all beings, achieve the path to Buddhahood.



Three Bows

With utmost sincerity,

I pay homage to the eternal Triple Gem,
throughout the ten directions of the Dharma realm.

Notes: This may be chanted as a daily liturgy (more appropriate in the AM) or when someone requests prayers, visits the temple, etc. Change the petition at the end to suit needs. This is primarily oriented towards living beings and general blessings.



Celestial Platform Vihara 天臺精舍

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Before beginning chanting~

Wash hands and rinse your mouth.

Offer flowers to the left, water and tea in front, and a candle to the right, if appropriate.

Incense may be placed in front. More extensive offerings as you are willing and able.

First, sit respectfully and calm your body, breath, and heart.

After bowing three times, pick up the chanting book and hold it at heart level, with both hands.

Chanting should be slightly higher than your speaking voice, even, clear, and smooth, neither too loud nor too quiet. The image is that of gentle rain.

Practice note: This symbol ❖ indicates one bell or gong.