

Opening Chant for Daily Liturgy (Dharma Drum Mountain)

Na mo da bei guan shi yin pu sa (3 times)

[Homage to the Great Compassionate Avalokiteśvara Bodhisattva]

The Prajnaparamita Heart Sutra

(Precentor intones first two words) When the Bodhisattva Avalokitesvara was coursing in the deep prajnaparamita, he perceived that all five skandhas are empty, thereby transcending all sufferings.

Sariputra, form is not other than emptiness and emptiness not other than form. Form is precisely emptiness and emptiness precisely form.

So also are sensation, perception, volition, and consciousness. Sariputra, this voidness of all dharmas is not born, not destroyed, not impure, not pure, does not increase or decrease.

In voidness there is no form, and no sensation, perception, volition or consciousness; no eye, ear, nose, tongue, body, mind; no sight, sound, smell, taste, touch, thought; there is no realm of the eye, all the way up to no realm of mental cognition.

There is no ignorance and there is no ending of ignorance, through to no aging and death and no ending of aging and death. There is no suffering, no cause of suffering, no cessation of suffering, and no path.

There is no wisdom or any attainment. With nothing to attain, bodhisattvas relying on prajnaparamita have no obstructions in their minds.

Having no obstructions, there is no fear and departing far from confusion and imagining, they reach ultimate nirvana.

All past, present and future Buddhas, relying on prajnaparamita, attain anuttara-samyak-sambodhi. Therefore, know that prajnaparamita is the great mantra of power, the great mantra of wisdom, the supreme mantra, the unequalled mantra, which is able to remove all sufferings. It is real and not false.

Therefore, recite the mantra of prajnaparamita: Gate, Gate. Paragate. Parasamgate. Bodhi Svaha.

Four Great Vows

I vow to deliver innumerable sentient beings.

I vow to cut off endless vexations.

I vow to master limitless approaches to Dharma.

I vow to attain supreme Buddhahood.

Three Refuges

I take refuge in the Buddha, and I wish all sentient beings, will awaken to the great Path, and make the supreme resolution.

I take refuge in the Dharma, and I wish all sentient beings, will penetrate the sutras, their wisdom as deep as the ocean.

I take refuge in the Sangha, and I wish all sentient beings, will be brought together in great harmony, without any obstructions at all.

Transfer of Merit

We pray:

For the flourishing of Buddhadharma,

For peace in the world,

For the joy and contentment of all people,

For the freedom and ease of body and mind.

May sentient beings depart from suffering.

May the vows of the donors be fulfilled.