

Valley Streams Zen Sangha

RYAKU FUSATSU (FULL MOON) - BODHISATTVA CEREMONY

REPENTENCE (Call and response – 3 times)

All my ancient twisted karma
From beginning-less greed, hate and delusion
Born through body, speech and mind
I now fully avow.

HOMAGES (Call and response - once) *Bow at each **

Homage to* the Seven Buddhas before Buddha.
Homage to* Shakyamuni Buddha.
Homage to* Maitreya Buddha.
Homage to* Manjusri Bodhisattva.
Homage to* Samantabhadra Bodhisattva
Homage to* Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva.
Homage to* the Succession of Ancestors.

FOUR BODHISATTVA VOWS (Call and response – 3 times)

Beings are numberless, I vow to save them.
Delusions are inexhaustible, I vow to end them.
Dharma gates are boundless, I vow to enter them.
Buddha's Way is unsurpassable, I vow to become it.

REFUGES (once) *Assembly chants underlined words. Bow at each **

I take refuge in Buddha.

Before all being,*

Immersing body and mind deeply in the Way,

Awakening true mind.

I take refuge in Dharma.

Before all being,*

Entering deeply the merciful ocean

Of Buddha's Way.

I take refuge in Sangha.

Before all being,*

Bringing harmony to everyone,

Free from hindrance.

PURE PRECEPTS

I vow to refrain from all evil.

It is the abode of the law of all Buddhas; it is the source of the law of all Buddhas.

I vow to make every effort to live in enlightenment.

It is the teaching of anuttara samyaksambodhi and the path of the one who practices and that which is practiced.

I vow to live and be lived for the benefit of all beings.

It is transcending profane and holy and taking self and others across.

GRAVE PRECEPTS

I vow not to kill.

By not killing life the Buddha tree seed grows. Transmit the life of Buddha and do not kill.

I vow not to take what is not given.

The self and objects are such as they are. Two yet one. The gate of liberation stands open.

I vow not to misuse sexuality.

Let the three wheels of self, object and action be pure. With nothing to desire one goes along together with the Buddhas.

I vow to refrain from false speech.

The Dharma Wheel turns from the beginning. There is neither surplus nor lack. The sweet dew saturates all and harvests the truth.

I vow to refrain from intoxicants.

Originally pure, don't defile. This is the great awareness.

I vow not to slander.

In the Buddhadharma, go together, appreciate together, realize together and actualize together. Don't permit faultfinding. Don't permit haphazard talk. Do not corrupt the Way.

I vow not to praise self at the expense of others.

Buddhas and Ancestors realize the vast sky and the great earth. When they manifest the noble body, there is neither inside nor outside in emptiness. When they manifest the Dharma body there is not even a bit of earth on the ground.

I vow not to be avaricious.

One phrase, one verse – that is the ten thousand things and one hundred grasses; one Dharma, one realization – is all Buddhas and Ancestors. Therefore, from the beginning, there has been no stinginess at all.

I vow not to harbor ill will.

Not negative, not positive, neither real nor unreal, there is an ocean of illuminated clouds and an ocean of bright clouds.

I vow not to abuse the Three Treasures.

To expound the Dharma with this body is foremost. The virtue returns to the ocean of reality. It is unfathomable; we just accept it with respect and gratitude.