

# Belmont Zen Center

## 려산암

Ryeo-san-am

Beautiful Mountain Hermitage

Buddha's Enlightenment Evening Liturgy





**Buddha-Vandanā** [chanted – hapjang 🙏] ṃ

~~Namo tassa Bhagavato arahato sam~~ ~~mā~~ ~~sam~~ ~~bud~~ ~~dhas~~ ~~sa.~~ ṃ

(repeat 3 times)

~~Homage to the Sublime~~ **One**, ~~the~~ ~~Worthy~~ **One**,  
~~the Fully En~~ **lightened** **One** ṃ

(repeat 3 times)

**The Four Great Vows** [chanted – hapjang 🙏]

~~All beings, one body, I~~ **vow to** ~~libe~~ ~~rate.~~ ṃ③

~~Endless blind passions, I~~ **vow to** ~~up~~ ~~root.~~

~~Dharma gates without number, I~~ **vow to** ~~pene~~ ~~trate.~~

~~The Great Way of Buddha~~ ṃ③, ~~I~~ **vow to** ~~mani~~ ~~fest.~~ ṃ①②

(repeat 3 times)

**Gatha on Opening the Sutra** [spoken – hapjang 🙏]

The Dharma, incomparably profound and infinitely subtle,  
is rarely encountered,  
even in hundreds of thousands of millions of ages.

Now we see it, hear it, receive and maintain it.  
May we completely realize the Tathagata’s true meaning.

☉ **The Maha Prajñāparamita Hridaya Sutra**

[chanted – hapjang 🙏] ☉

~~The Bodhisattva of Great Compassion~~

~~from the deep practice of Prajñā~~ ~~ra~~ ~~mita~~

~~perceived the emptiness of all five skandas~~

~~and delivered all beings from their~~ **suffering** ☉

(Continues)

O, Shariputra,  
form is no other than emptiness,  
emptiness no other than **form**,  
form is emptiness, emptiness **form**.  
The same is true of feeling, **thought**,  
**impulse** and consciousness. ☉

O, Shariputra,  
all dharmas are empty.  
They are not **born**, nor **annihilated**.  
They are not **defiled**, nor **immaculate**.  
They do not **increase**, nor **decrease**.  
So, in emptiness, no **form**, no feeling, no **thought**,  
no **impulse**, no consciousness. ☉

No **eye, ear, nose, tongue, body, mind**;  
no **form, sound, smell, taste, touch, or** objects of **mind**;  
no realm of **sight**, no realm of consciousness. ☉

No **ignorance**, nor extinction of **ignorance**;  
no old age and **death**, nor extinction of **them**. ☉

No **suffering**, no cause of **suffering**,  
no cease from **suffering**, no path to lead out of **suffering**;  
no **knowledge**, no **attainment**, no **realization**,  
for there is nothing to **attain**. ☉

**The Bodhisattva** holds on to **nothing** but Prajñāpāramitā,  
therefore the mind is clear of any delusive hindrance.  
Without hindrance, there is no **fear**;  
Away from all perverted **views**, one reaches final **Nirvana**. ☉

(Continues)

All Buddhas of past, present and future,  
through faith in Prajñāparaṃita,  
attain to the highest perfect enlightenment. ☉

**Know then** the Prajñāparaṃita is the great dhārāṇī,  
the radiant peerless mantram,  
the utmost supreme mantram,  
which is capable of allaying all pain.  
This is true beyond all doubt. ☉

**Proclaim now** the highest wisdom, the Prajñāparaṃita. ☉

Gate, Gate, Paragate, Parasamgate, Bodhi Svaha! ☉

Gate, Gate, Paragate, Parasamgate, Bodhi Svaha! ☉

Gate, Gate, Paragate, Parasamgate, Bodhi Svaha! ☉

**The Maha Prajñāparaṃita Hridaya Sūtra.** ☉ ☉ ☉

## ॐ ॐ ॐ Seated Meditation ॐ ॐ ॐ ॐ ॐ ॐ ॐ ॐ ॐ ॐ

If you have no experience with meditation, here are some basic instructions. Sit solidly. If in a chair, put both feet flat on the floor. Lay your hands comfortably on your thighs or in your lap. Feel yourself pulled up by the crown of the head, as if by a marionette string. Allow the chin to tip in toward the chest naturally.

Take full breaths at a natural pace. Allow the belly to puff out with each breath – visualize drawing each breath down past the navel.

Focus your mind on the sensations of breathing and find the place where they are strongest: the chest, or the abdomen, or around or below the nose. Allow that feeling to fill your mind. When – not if – your thoughts stray from that sensation, simply return your mind to that feeling, without anger or self-criticism.

## Reading — From *The Awakened One: A Life of the Buddha*, by Sherab Chödzin Kohn

### Homage to the Buddha [spoken – hapjang 🙏]

I announce to the Tathāgata,  
The fully enlightened Buddha, the great sage,  
Who is free from attachment.  
I invite the Well-Gone One, the one full of great wisdom.

With candle lights dispelling dark  
I venerate the perfect Buddha,  
The light of the triple world,  
Who dispels the darkness of delusion.

With this incense sweetly scented,  
Made from fragrant substances,  
I venerate the one worthy of reverence,  
The supreme recipient of offerings.

This cluster of flowers,  
Beautiful, fragrant, and excellent,  
I offer at the holy lotus feet  
Of the noble Lord of Sages.

With these flowers I venerate the Buddha;  
By this merit may I gain liberation.  
As these flowers fade and wither  
So will this body be destroyed.

The Buddha, well-purified, with ocean-like compassion,  
Possessed of the eye of knowledge, completely purified,  
Destroyer of the evils and corruption of the world:  
I revere that Buddha with devotion.

Homage to you so nobly bred.  
Homage to you amongst men supreme.  
Peerless are you in all the world.  
May all homage be given to you.

## Kido Chanting [chanted – hapjang 🙏]

Soek-ga-moni bul, Seok-ga-moni bul, Seok-ga-moni bul  
(repeat 36 times)

## Purification Gatha ॐ [chanted – hapjang 🙏]

All evil actions committed by **me** since time immemorial, ॐ③  
Stemming from **greed**, **anger**, and **ignorance**,  
Arising from **body**, **speech**, and **mind**, ॐ③  
I now repent having committed. ॐ①②  
(repeat 3 times)

## Dedication of Merit [chanted – hapjang 🙏] ॐ

The merit gained through our Dharma activities,  
We now dedicate to all beings  
for the alleviation of their suffering. ॐ  
I dedicate my **life**, **practice** and **faith**,  
to the enlightenment of **all** beings. ॐ  
May we all attain Buddhahood **together**. ॐ  
*[Special dedication for the day]*

ॐ ॐ ॐ [three prostrations]

## Closing the Altar

Evening Gatha [hapjang 🙏] \ \ \ [standing bow]



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