



Lian Xin

July 31, 2005 - November 9, 2020

**Lotus Heart Zen
Oneida, NY
November 14, 2020**

Lian Xin
7-31-05 to 11-8-20

I. Lighting Candles and Incense

[Rev. Anwol and Sr. Anjin will light candles and incense on each side altar and one side each of the main altar. Those participating remotely can light candles and incense where they are.]

II. Opening Bell

[temple bell] 3x

III. Ceremony Opening

[Rev. Anwol]

Today we gather to honor Lian Xin (Lotus Heart) and pay our last respects while invoking the names of the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas. The friends of Lian are here to take part in the ceremony and offer all our love and support to Lian Xin and to each other during these profound moments of transformation.

[Sr. Anjin]

We also dedicate this ceremony to all those deeply loved animal companions who have transitioned from this life and to their human guardians who grieve and feel their absence profoundly. We ask those who have gathered, to listen with a quiet mind. Please let us be aware of our breathing and the good fortune we have to practice together today.

IV. Chanting to Kṣitigarbha (the bodhisattva for those who are grieving and those in transition)

[Chanting in Sino-Korean: Ji-Jang Bosal]

[all together]

ji-jang bo-sal

ji-jang bo-sal

ji-jang bo-sal

ji-jang bo-sal. . . *[repeat]*

V. Incense Offering

[Each person present comes forward, offers incense at the altar, and returns to their seat. At this time, those participating remotely can light incense where they are.]

After the incense offering, everyone bows together.]

VI. Calling on the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas

[Sr. Anjin, ringing hand bell while chanting]

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Namo Amitabha Buddha
Namo Avalokiteśvara Bodhisattva
Namo Mañjuśrī Bodhisattva
Namo Samantabhadra Bodhisattva
Namo Kṣitigarbha Bodhisattva

[all together]

Homage to Amitabha, the Buddha of Great Light and Love
Homage to Avalokiteśvara, the bodhisattva of Great Compassion
Homage to Mañjuśrī, the bodhisattva of Great Wisdom
Homage to Samantabhadra, the bodhisattva of Great Action
Homage to Kṣitigarbha, the bodhisattva of Great Aspiration

[Rev. Anwol]

In this world of impermanence, we offer this ceremony to Lian Xin, her name means “Lotus Heart”. It was because of her unique quality for welcoming all she met, that this sangha was named after her.

[Sr. Anjin]

Further, we make dharma offerings to all spirits, those above and below, those who have found rest and those who are still wandering. Also, for all beings who feel lost and are suffering.

[all together]

This body is not me. I am not limited by this body. I am life without boundaries. I have never been born, and I have never died. Look at the ocean and the sky filled with stars—manifestations from my wondrous True Mind.

Since before time, I have been free. Birth and death are only doors through which we pass, sacred thresholds on our journey. Birth and death are a game of hide-and-seek.

So smile with me, hold my hand, let us say good-bye, say good-bye, to meet again soon. We meet today. We will meet again tomorrow. We will meet at the source of every moment. We meet each other in all forms of life.

[temple bell]

VII. Dharma Speeches

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[Rev. Anwol and Sr. Anjin will offer guiding and supporting words to the deceased and those left behind.]

VIII. Mantra Chanting

[all together]

The Mantra for Shattering the Walls of Suffering:

[Sino-Korean]

*om gara jiya sabaha
om gara jiya sabaha
om gara jiya sabaha*

The Mantra for Dispelling Hate and Anger:

[Sino-Korean]

*om samdara gadayak sabaha
om samdara gadayak sabaha
om samdara gadayak sabaha*

Mantra of Eliminating Fixed Karma:

[Sanskrit]

*om pra mani dani swa-ha
om pra mani dani swa-ha
om pra mani dani swa-ha*

IX. Dharani for Inviting the Cloud-like Hosts of Spirits

[Sino-Korean]

[Sr. Anjin, ringing hand bell while chanting]

*Namu bo bo jeo li kali dali tata a daya
Namu bo bo jeo li kali dali tata a daya
Namu bo bo jeo li kali dali tata a daya*

X. The Three Refuges of the Ten Directions

[all together]

I now receive the Buddha, who is present throughout the ten directions.
I now receive the Dharma, which is present throughout the ten directions

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I now receive the Sangha, which is present throughout the ten directions.

Homage to Kṣitigarbha, the bodhisattva who assists those who are grieving and guides all those in transition.

Homage to Avalokiteśvara, the bodhisattva of great compassion and sympathy, who saves all from distress.

Homage to Vairocana, the Buddha of Celestial Light and Infinite Wisdom, who vanquishes ignorance and illuminates us with wisdom.

[Rev. Anwol]

With deep sincerity we offer an invitation to all beings:

[Sr. Anjin]

Please come and listen!

True nature is before thinking.

Dharma body has no form.

Conditions and relationships appear and disappear like reflections in a mirror.

The effects of karma, cause and effect, rise and fall like a water bucket rising and falling in a well.

We cannot understand this miraculously changing mind.

When this illusion occurs, what can you do?

[Rev. Anwol]

We now sincerely invite Lian Xin to come before this altar, guided by the light of Buddha-nature to receive these dharma offerings.

XI. Buddhist Homage

[all together]

Life and death are but an illusion.

Happy and sad are just states of mind.

The nature of original mind is still and clear.

Original mind has no past or present.

What is the one pure and clear thing?

Clear and bright—it has no birth or death.

Looking above and below—it is always still.

Seeing and hearing—it is clear and plain.

The light of compassion shines from within the heart of the lotus flower.

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Seeing with the eye of wisdom all hells disappear.
Kindness and compassion alleviates the suffering of all sentient beings.
To recognize the interconnectedness of all beings is to know peace.
May we all awaken and become Buddha!

[temple bell] 3x

XII. Dedication

[Sr. Anjin]

With a pure heart, I offer an invitation and prayer for Lian Xin.
I also offer an invitation and prayer for our ancestors, our teachers, all spirits above and below, and all deceased animal companions and beings.

[Rev. Anwol]

May they be guided by Universal light.

[Sr. Anjin]

If you suffer in the painful realms of past, present and future, listen so that the fire of karma may be extinguished and that you may be free from suffering.

[Rev. Anwol]

May all beings awaken and be liberated from suffering.

[temple bell]

[all together]

All forms are empty.
If one sees all form as non-form, just like this is True-Nature.
All things that have tangible characteristics are delusion.
If you see that all aspects are not tangible aspects, then you will see your true self.
All phenomena, from their very origin, always have the aspect of stillness and extinction.
All formations are impermanent.
This is the law of appearing and disappearing.
Homage to Amitabha, the Buddha of Infinite Light and Love.
Homage to Sukhavati, the Western Pure Land— world of utmost bliss, which is here, right now.
Homage to the Buddhakaya, the Buddha's body, which is long and wide. Its auspicious marks are without boundary. Its golden color shines brightly, pervading the entire universe.

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When we are compassionate and kind, each of us becomes the Buddhakaya:
Great Love, Great Sadness, Our Original Teacher, The Golden “Just like this” Buddha:

Namo Amitabha Buddha
Namo Amitabha Buddha *[temple bell]*
Namo Amitabha Buddha

[temple bell]

XIII. Sharing of Relatives and Friends

[Sr. Anjin will invite friends to share some words to remember Lian Xin.]

XIV. Closing Ceremony

Chanting to Kṣitigarbha Bodhisattva

[Sr. Anjin, ringing hand bell while chanting]

[all together]

Namu dae seung In Ro Wang Bosal
Namu dae seung In Ro Wang Bosal
Namu dae seung In Ro Wang Bosal

[Rev. Anwol]

Today at this outer gate, we send off Lian Xin.

We invoked the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas and chanted with sincere hearts.

By virtue of this, we have become free of undesirable influences.

[Sr. Anjin goes to the altar, reads Lian’s nameplate and then burns it.]

[all together, as the nameplate burns.]

Om biro gi-je sabaha
Om biro gi-je sabaha

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Om biro gi-je sabaha

[Rev. Anwol goes to the altar, reads the animals names on nameplate and then burns it.]

[all together, as the nameplate burns]

Om biro gi-je sabaha

Om biro gi-je sabaha

Om biro gi-je sabaha

[Sr. Anjin]

The four elements disperse as in a dream.

The six dusts and six roots and six consciousnesses are originally Śūnyatā.

To understand that, the Buddha and eminent teachers return to the place of light.

The sun is setting over the western mountains; the moon is rising in the east.

XV. Mantra for Ease of Transition

[all together]

Om mani dani hum hum ba tak sabaha

Om mani dani hum hum ba tak sabaha

Om mani dani hum hum ba tak sabaha

While living in the world, keeping our mind clear like space, pure like a lotus flower, untainted like clean water, maintaining a mind clear and still, without discrimination, we truly honor the inconceivable Buddha.

[temple bell] 3x

XVI. Paying Homage to the Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha

[all together]

We pay homage to the Buddha.

We pay homage to the Dharma.

We pay homage to the Sangha.

XVII. Sharing the Merit

[all together]

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Chanting, practicing the way of awareness, gives rise to benefits without limit. We vow to share the fruits with all beings. We vow to offer tribute to parents, teachers, friends and numerous beings, who gives guidance and support along the path.

[temple bell]

May we realize Sukhavti, right here and now, arising within the heart of a lotus flower.
At the moment the lotus blooms, we touch the reality of no-birth and no-death.
May the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas be our companions on the wonderful path of practice.

[temple bell]

May we end all afflictions so that understanding can arise, the obstacles of unwholesome acts be dissolved, and the fruit of awakening be fully realized.

[temple bell]

May all the merit accumulated through this ceremony be conveyed to all beings.
May we in this life, find liberation, realize nirvana, save all beings, and all together become Buddhas.

[temple bell] 3x

XVIII. Expressing Gratitude

[loved one of the deceased]

Thank you for coming and chanting for Lian Xin.

[Sr. Anjin]

May we all remain established in mindfulness to give spiritual support to the relatives and friends of the deceased.

[temple bell] 3x

XVIII. Extinguishing of Candles

[Rev. Anwol and Sr. Anjin will extinguish candles on each side of the altars.]

[Those participating remotely can extinguish their candles.]

XIX. End Ceremony