Mountain View Buddhist Temple
Sunday Service
November 8, 2020

- Opening Remarks
- Kansho
- Sutra Chanting – *Juseige*
- Golden Chain
  - Dharma School 5th & 6th Grade Class
- Dharma Message – *Rev. Yushi Mukojima*
- Closing Remarks

*A Post-Election Reflection & Conversation following Service Watch Party.* Join an informal conversation with Sangha members about our thoughts, feelings, and questions after the election.

Please go to our Temple website <https://mvbuddhisttemple.org/> for a link to this and other services on our YouTube Channel.
JU SEI GE
(Gatha of the Important Vows)

JU SEI GE is a poem or *gatha* found in the *Larger Sutra of the Buddha of Immeasurable Life* (*Dai Muryo Ju Kyo* or *Dai-Kyo* for short), one of the three Principal Sutras of Jodo Shinshu. This sutra delivered by Sakyamuni Buddha, relates how all sentient beings will attain liberation from suffering and sorrow in this world through the compassion of Amida Buddha. The historical Sakyamuni Buddha does this by telling the tale of the Bodhisattva Dharmakara who declares, in the presence of Lokesvararaja Buddha, his intentions to become a Buddha himself. In the process, Bodhisattva Dharmakara declares a total of 48 vow that must be fulfilled before he can attain Buddhahood. Upon the fulfillment of all these vows, Bodhisattva Dharmakara become the Amida Buddha.

The JU SEI GE can be found following all of the 48 vows and can be looked upon as a summary of these vows into three basic pledges. For this reason, in some traditions this Gatha is sometimes called the *San Sei Ge* meaning the Gatha of the Three Sacred Pledges. They refer to Dharmakara’s pledge to:

1. Establish the most incomparable vow in the world.
2. Become a great provider and aid all those in suffering and need.
3. Attain Buddhahood and have his Name (*Namo Amida Butsu*) heard throughout the ten quarters of the universe.

The establishment of the vows by a bodhisattva is very important in the process of attaining Buddhahood. They are a reflection of the heart and mind of that Bodhisattva manifesting true wisdom and compassion. What is of importance in the Larger Sutra is the sincerity and diligence by the Bodhisattva Dharmakara to carry out these vows for eons until their completion and finally attaining the Supreme Attainment of Buddhahood becoming the Amida Buddha.
**JU SEI GE**  
*(Gatha of the Important Vows)*

The Sutra On The Buddha of Immeasurable Life  
-- delivered by Sakyamuni Buddha

I have made vows, unrivalled in all the worlds;  
I shall certainly reach the unsurpassed Way.  
If these vows should not be fulfilled,  
May I not attain perfect Enlightenment.

If I should not become a great benefactor  
In lives to come for immeasurable kalpas  
To save the poor and the afflicted everywhere,  
May I not attain perfect Enlightenment.

When I attain Buddhahood,  
My Name shall be heard throughout the 10 directions;  
Should there be any place where it is not heard,  
May I not attain perfect Enlightenment.

Free of greed and with profound mindfulness  
And pure wisdom, I will perform the sacred practices;  
I will seek to attain the unsurpassed Way  
And become the teacher of heavenly beings and humans.

With my wondrous power I will shine a great light  
Illuminating the worlds without limit  
And dispel the darkness of the three defilements  
And deliver all from suffering and pain.

Having obtained the eye of wisdom,  
I will remove the darkness of ignorance;  
Blocking all paths of evil  
I will open the gate to Attainment

Having attained Buddhahood untainted,  
My majestic lights shall radiate in the ten directions  
Outshining the sun and the moon  
And surpassing the brilliance of the heavens.

I will open the Dharma-storehouse for the multitudes  
And endow them all with treasures of merit.  
Being always among the multitudes  
I will proclaim the Dharma with a lion’s roar.

I will make offerings to all the buddhas  
Thereby aquire roots of virtue.  
When my vows are fulfilled and wisdom perfected,  
I will be the master of the three worlds.

As the Buddha’s wisdom is unimpeded,  
There is no place its light cannot reach,  
May my power of Merit and wisdom be equal to the Most Honored One.

If these Vows are to be fulfilled,  
Let this universe of a thousand million worlds quake  
And let all the heavenly beings rain down rare and marvelous blossoms from the sky.

I take refuge in Amida Buddha  
I take refuge in Amida Buddha  
I take refuge in Amida Buddha  
I take refuge in Amida Buddha  
I take refuge in Amida Buddha  
I take refuge in Amida Buddha  
I take refuge in Amida Buddha  
May this merit and virtue be shared equally with all beings.  
May we together awaken the Bodhi Mind  
And attain birth in the Realm of Serenity and Joy.
**CHANTS**

**JU SEI GE**
*(Gatha of the Important Vows)*

Leader:

GA GON CHO SEI GAN
Sangha:

HIS- SHI MU JO DO
SHI GAN FU MAN ZOKu
SEI FU JO SHO GAKu

GA O MU RYO KO
FU I DAI SE SHU
FU SAI SHO BIN GU
SEI FU JO SHO GAKu

GA SHI JO BUTSU DO
MYO SHO CHO JIP- PO
KU KYO MI SHO MON
SEI FU JO SHO GAKu

RI YOKU JIN SHO NEN
JO E SHU BON GYO
SHI GU MU JO DO
I SHO TEN NIN SHI

JIN RIKI EN DAI KO
FU SHO MU SAI DO
SHO JO SAN KU MYO
KO SAI SHU YAKU NAN

KAI HI CHI E GEN
MES- SHI KON MO AN
HEI SOKU SHO AKU DO
TSU DATSU ZEN SHU MON

KO SO JO MAN ZOKu
I YO RO JIP- PO
NICHIGATSU SHU JU KI
TEN KO ON PU GEN

Leader:

I SHU KAI HO ZO
KO SE KU DOKU HO
JO O DAI SHU CHU
SEP- PO SHI SHI KU

KU YO IS- SAI BUTsu
GU SOKU SHU TOKU HON
GAN E SHITSU JO MAN
TOKU I SAN GAI O

NYO BUTSU MU GE CHI
TSU DATSU MI FU SHO
GAN GA KU E RIKi
TO SHI SAI SHO SON

SHI GAN NYAK- KOK- KA
DAI SEN O KAN DO
KO KU SHO TEN NIN
TO U CHIN MYO KE ●

Leader:

NA MAN DA BU ●

Sangha:

NA MAN DA BU
NA MAN DA BU
NA MAN DA BU
NA MAN DA BU
NA MAN DA BU

Leader:

GAN NI SHI KU DOKU

Sangha:

BYO DO SE IS- SAI
DO HOTSU BO DAI SHIN
O JO AN ● RAK-● KOKu
GOLDEN CHAIN

I am a link in the Buddha’s Golden Chain of love that stretches around the world. I must keep my link bright and strong.

I will try to be kind and gentle to every living thing and protect all who are weaker than myself.

I will try to think pure and beautiful thoughts, say pure and beautiful words, and do pure and beautiful deeds, knowing that my actions will result in not only my happiness or unhappiness, but also the happiness or unhappiness of others as well.

May every link in the Buddha’s Golden Chain of love be bright and strong and may we all attain perfect peace.