

President's First Dharma Talk for the Year

- Homage (*Recite the O-daimoku three times.*)
- Meditation on the Place of the Way
- Taking Refuge in the Three Treasures
- Invocation

We put our faith in

The Eternal Buddha Shakyamuni—Great Benevolent Teacher, World-Honored One;

The Tathagata Abundant Treasures, witness to the Lotus Sutra;

The separated embodiments of the Buddha in the ten directions in the past, present, and future;

The four great bodhisattvas: Superior Practice, Boundless Practice, Pure Practice, and Steadfast Practice;

The bodhisattva-mahasattvas: Manjushri, Universal Sage, Maitreya, and all other bodhisattva-mahasattvas;

Great Bodhisattva Nichiren, revered practitioner of the Lotus Sutra;

Founder Nikkyo, Great Teacher of the One Vehicle;

Cofounder Myoko, Bodhisattva of the Way of Compassion;

The guardian spirits of Rissho Kosei-kai;

And the countless heavenly spirits in the ten directions.

May you all be present among us and know our deep devotion.

We, members of [*Dharma center name*], all of pure heart, have solemnly gathered together to receive the President's Dharma message for the New Year.

We earnestly pray for guidance in all things through the profound, sublime meaning of the Great Vehicle Sutra of the Lotus Flower of the Wondrous Dharma.

(Strike the gong and recite the O-daimoku once.)

- Opening Verse
- Sutra Recitation
- Universal Transfer of Merit
- Recitation of the O-daimoku
- Transfer of Merit

Having respectfully recited the Great Vehicle Sutra of the Lotus Flower of the Wondrous

Dharma, may we transfer its merits to and thus reciprocate the boundless compassion of
The Eternal Buddha Shakyamuni—Great Benevolent Teacher, World-Honored One;
The Tathagata Abundant Treasures, witness to the Lotus Sutra;
The separated embodiments of the Buddha in the ten directions in the past, present, and future;
The four great bodhisattvas: Superior Practice, Boundless Practice, Pure Practice, and Steadfast
Practice;
The bodhisattva-mahasattvas: Manjushri, Universal Sage, Maitreya, and all other bodhisattva-
mahasattvas;
Great Bodhisattva Nichiren, revered practitioner of the Lotus Sutra;
Founder Nikkyo, Great Teacher of the One Vehicle;
Cofounder Myoko, Bodhisattva of the Way of Compassion;
The guardian spirits of Rissho Kosei-kai;
The guardian spirits of [*Dharma center name*];
The guardian spirits of member families of Rissho Kosei-kai;
And the countless heavenly spirits in the ten directions.

(Strike the gong once.)

All of us have now renewed our vows to cultivate our minds and hearts and to share the Dharma
in the spirit of “many in body, one in spirit.”

We earnestly pray that with the help of sagely guidance and boundless protection, all living beings
may awaken to their buddha nature and world peace may be achieved.

- Homage (*Recite the-daimoku three times.*)