

## Expression of Gratitude Service

- 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.

[*Dharma center name*] solemnly conducts this expression of gratitude service.

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
- Dharanis (*Chapters 26 and 28 from the Kyoten's appendix, five times each*)
- 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.)*

Now, on this occasion of the expression of gratitude service, having sincerely recited the sutra together, all of us gathered here express our genuine gratitude for [*name of object*]'s [*many*] years of service.

We reverently pray that through the merits of this sutra recitation, all that we have deconsecrated may be purified. We also earnestly pray for protection in all things.

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

### **Note**

1. Above, for [*name of object*], insert the specific name of the object that is deconsecrated by this service.
2. Above, in the place of [*many*], you can use any specific number.
3. After the sutra recitation, purify the deconsecrated object by scattering salt, grains, and alcohol first in the northeast direction and then in the cardinal directions: north, east, south, and west.