

THE THREEFOLD REFUGE

Leader: Hard yet wondrous is it to be born into human life, yet now we are living it. Difficult is it to hear the Dharma of the Buddha, yet now we are able to hear it. If we do not cross over this world of delusion in this present life, when will we ever we cross over? Let us assemble together, and sincerely take refuge in the Three Treasure of the Truth.

Sangha: I take refuge in the Buddha.
My sincere wish is that together with all sentient beings, we understand and experience the Great Path of Enlightenment and attain the Supreme Bodhi Mind.

I take refuge in the Dharma.
My sincere wish is that together with all sentient beings, we deeply enter the storehouse of the Dharma, and attain Wisdom as deep as the ocean.

I take refuge in the Sangha.
My sincere wish is that together with all sentient beings, we live harmoniously as the great assembly of disciples of the Buddha freed from all delusions.

Leader: The excellent, profound, and wondrous Dharma is rare to encounter even in many hundreds and thousands of *kalpas* (eons). Now we are able to see and hear it, feel and accept it. Let us thoroughly understand the true and real essence of the teachings of the Buddha.