

## Kanzeon Service

*Nine full bows: ◆<sup>R</sup>*

*Incense offering at Main & Kanzeon Altars: ●●●*

*Chant leader alone –*

### Verse of the Universal Gateway Chapter ●

*All together –*

Bod·hi·sat·tva In·fi·nite Thought

asked a ques·tion in verse:

“World·ho·nored One, of won·drous form,

I in·qui·re ag·ain of that bud·dha·child:

what are the caus·es of her name,

‘Re·gar·ding the Cries of the World?’”

The Ho·nored One, of won·drous form,

Re·plied in verse to In·fi·nite Thought:

“Li·sen to the deeds of Kan·ze·on,

who apt·ly re·sponds in ev·ery quar·ter.

With vast pledge as deep as oc·eans,

Through·out kal·pas be·yond reck·on·ing,

she served ma·ny thou·sands of mil·lions of bud·dhas,

●<sup>D</sup> bring·ing forth this great pure vow.

For you I ex·plain it brief·ly:

Hear·ing the name or see·ing the form of Kan·ze·on

with mind·ful re·mem·brance is not in vain,

for the woes of ex·is·tence can thus be re·lieved.

Ev·en if some·one with harm·ful in·tent

should push you in·to a fi·er·y pit,

by mind·ful·ly in·vok·ing Kan·ze·on’s po·wer,

**the pit of fire will turn in·to a pool.**

**If drift·ing in a vast sea,**

**Men·aced by dra·gons, fish, or de·mons,**

**by mind·ful·ly in·vok·ing Kan·ze·on's po·wer,**

**the bil·low·ing waves can·not drown you.**

**If from Mount Su·me·ru's lof·ty peak,**

**Some·one were to throw you down,**

**by mind·ful·ly in·vok·ing Kan·ze·on's po·wer,**

**like the sun you would stand firm in the sky.**

**If pur·sued by wick·ed men,**

**down from Dia·mond Peak,**

**by mind·ful·ly in·vok·ing Kan·ze·on's po·wer,**

**they could not harm a sin·gle hair.**

**If sur·round·ed by vic·ious ban·dits,**

**each with a sword, drawn to strike,**

**by mind·ful·ly in·vok·ing Kan·ze·on's po·wer,**

**at once their hearts will turn to com·pas·sion.**

**If, per·se·cut·ed by rul·ers,**

**you face tor·ture and ex·e·cu·tion,**

**by mind·ful·ly in·vok·ing Kan·ze·on's po·wer,**

**their weap·ons will shat·ter to piec·es.**

**If im·pris·oned in shack·les and chains,**

**hands and feet bound in re·straints,**

**by mind·ful·ly in·vok·ing Kan·ze·on's po·wer,**

**sud·den·ly you shall be re·leased.**

**If by cur·ses or poi·son·ous herbs,**

**Some·one wish·es to hurt your bo·dy,**

**by mind·ful·ly in·vok·ing Kan·ze·on's po·wer,**

**the harm·ful in·tent will re·turn to its source.**

If you meet ev-il crea-tures,  
Poi-son-ous dra-gons, or var-i-ous de-mons,  
 by mind-ful-ly in-vok-ing Kan-ze-on's po-wer,  
none will dare to harm you.

If sur-roun-ded by rag-ing beasts  
with sharp fangs and dread-ful claws,  
 by mind-ful-ly in-vok-ing Kan-ze-on's po-wer,  
they will quick-ly scat-ter in all di-rec-tions.

If ven-om-ous snakes or scor-pi-ons  
Threat-en with dead-ly breath of fi-re,  
 by mind-ful-ly in-vok-ing Kan-ze-on's po-wer,  
at the sound of your voice they will turn and de-part.

If clouds thun-der and light-ning strikes,  
Hail-stones fall, and it rains in tor-rents,  
 by mind-ful-ly in-vok-ing Kan-ze-on's po-wer,  
in-stant-ly they will dis-si-pate.

When liv-ing be-ings suf-fer hard-ships,  
Burd-ened by im-meas-'rab-le woes,  
the pow-er of Kan-ze-on's won-dr-ous wis-dom  
can re-lieve the suf-'ring of the world.

Ful-ly en-dowed with mi-ra-cu-lous pow-ers,  
Wide-ly prac-tic-ing wis-dom and skill-ful means,  
in eve-ry land and in all di-rec-tions,  
in no realm does she not ap-pear.

In all the var-i-ous ev-il des-tin-ies,  
of hell be-ings, hun-gry ghosts, and an-i-mals,  
the suf-'rings of birth, old age, sick-ness, and death,  
are gra-dual-ly re-lieved by Kan-ze-on.

Oh you of the true gaze, of the pure gaze,  
 of the gaze of broad and great wis·dom,  
 of the com·pas·sion·ate gaze and the gaze of good will,  
ev·er longed for, ev·er re·vered.

Un·blem·ished, ser·ene ra·di·ance,  
 Be·ne·vo·lent sun, dis·pel·ling all gloom,  
 Kan·ze·on can sub·due the wind and fi·re of woes,  
 Clear·ly il·lum·i·na·ting the world.

The pre·cepts of com·pas·sion roar like thun·der,  
 the kind heart won·drous as great clouds,  
pour·ing dhar·ma rain of sweet dew,  
quench·ing all flames of troub·ling pas·sion.

In dis·putes be·fore jud·ges,  
 or fear·ful in the midst of bat·tle,  
 by mind·ful·ly in·vok·ing Kan·ze·on's po·wer,  
 ● all hos·til·i·ties will be dis·persed.

The won·drous voice of Kan·ze·on,  
Brah·ma·voice, voice of the roll·ing tides,  
Sur·pas·ses ev·ery sound with·in all the world;  
 There·fore ev·er keep it in mind.

In each thought, with ne·ver a doubt,  
 Kan·ze·on, the pure sage,  
 in pain, a·go·ny, or in death's dis·tress,  
can pro·vide a sure sup·port.

Ful·ly en·dowed with all vir·tues,  
 her eye of com·pas·sion be·holds all be·ings,  
 as·sem·bling a bound·less o·cean of hap·pi·ness;  
thus, with rev·'rence, you should make pros·tra·tions.”

● Then Earth-Hol·der Bod·hi·sat·tva a·rose from his seat,  
went be·fore the Bud·dha and said:

“Oh World-ho·nored One, those liv·ing be·ings who hear these  
ver·ses on Kan·ze·on, their be·ne·fits will not be slight,  
and the same for those peo·ple who hear of her deeds,  
of her ma·ni·fes·ta·tion of a un·i·ver·sal gate·way,  
and her su·per·na·tu·ral pow·ers.”

When the Bud·dha had taught this “U·ni·ver·sal Gate·way”  
chap·ter, + all eight·y·four thou·sand be·ings  
in the as·sem·bly a·roused the thought of  
un·sur·passed, + com·plete, per·fect en·ligh·ten·ment.

## (Dedication of Merit)

*Chant leader alone –*

Absolute light, luminous throughout the whole universe;  
 unfathomable excellence penetrating everywhere; whenever these  
 devoted invocations are sent forth, they are perceived and subtly  
 answered.

We dedicate these merits to those who are ill, including: (*Names of ill are intoned*)

We also dedicate these merits to those who are in the transition of  
 death, including: (*Names of recently deceased are intoned*)

May we and they be serene throughout these transitions. May we  
 aspire to turn the dharma wheel unceasingly, and thereby free the  
 world from every tragedy of war, epidemic and starvation. May we,  
 together with all sentient beings, realize the enlightened way.

*All together –*

- All buddhas throughout space and time,
- All honored ones, bodhisattvas, mahasattvas,
- Wisdom beyond wisdom, maha prajna paramita.