

PRAISING THE BUDDHA

The Buddha is like the fresh, full moon
that soars across the immense sky.
When the river of mind is truly calm,
The moon is reflected perfectly
Upon the surface of the deep waters.
The countenance of the World Honored One,
like the full moon or like the orb of the sun,
Shines with the light of clarity,
a Halo of wisdom spreading in every direction,
Enveloping all with love, compassion, joy, and equanimity.

The inexhaustible virtues of the world honored one
Cannot be adequately praised.
We in the Charlotte Community of Mindfulness, on this day
Gather as a Fourfold Sangha, come to the altar, meditate and chant, praise
the virtuous actions of the Buddha, and offer this prayer:

May the path of the Buddha grow brighter.
May the Dharma become clearer.
May wind and rain be favorable.
May this country be at peace in the cities and rural areas.
May all follow the way of right practice.
May nature be safe. May people in society be free and equal.
May the refreshing breeze of compassion enter into this world of heat,
Allowing the sun of wisdom to shine clearly in the cloudy sky
So that the path of liberation is appreciated everywhere
And the Dharma rain falls, benefiting all species.

May the Sangha that is present here practice diligently,
showing concern and love for each other
As they would for their own family,
Transforming their consciousness.
We aspire to follow the example of the Bodhisattvas Samanthabhadra and
Avalokiteshvara
And all other Bodhisattva Mahasattvas,
And the great perfection of wisdom.
[BELL]