

Spiritual Principles (*Shūshi* 宗旨)

1. Denominational Affiliation (*Shūha* 宗派)

Rinzai School (*Rinzaishū* 臨濟宗) of the Zen tradition, Myōshinji Branch (*Myōshinji-ha* 妙心寺派).

2. Spiritual Principle (*Shūshi* 宗旨)

The single transmission of Zen constitutes our spiritual principle. The Ancestor and Great Master Bodhidharma inherited the true Dharma from Śākyamuni and after it was transmitted to the school founder, the Great Master Linji, it reached the Great Master Kanzan (Kanzan Egen 関山慧玄, Musō Daishi 無相大師).

3. Headquarters (*Honzan* 本山)

Shōbōzan Myōshinji, in Kyoto, Japan (Shōbōzan Myōshinji 正法山妙心寺).

4. Principal Image (in the altar) (*Honzon* 本尊)

Given the causes and conditions resulting from our veneration of the world-honored Śākyamuni as our founder of the teachings, we primarily honor the Tathāgata Śākyamuni and the Bodhisattva Avalokiteśvara.

5. Buddhist Scriptures (*Kyōten* 經典)

We mostly recite the *Heart Sūtra* (*Hannya shingyō* 般若心經), the *Great Light Dhāraṇī* (*Shōsaishu* 消災呪), the *Great Compassion Dhāraṇī* (*Daihishu* 大悲呪), the *Lotus Sūtra -Chapter 25* (*Kannongyō* 觀音經), the *Great Offering for Hungry Beings* (*Daisegaki* 大施餓鬼), the *Final Admonition of National Master Daitō* (*Kōzen Daitō Kokushi Yuikai* 興禪大燈国師遺誡), and the *Four Boundless Vows* (*Shiguseigan* 四弘誓願).

6. Core Teaching (*Kyōfū* 教風)

Firmly believing that our own hearts are none other than Buddha's, our primary practice is seated meditation (*Zazen*) in order to pursue the path of kindness and compassion.