

Order of Worship
Universalist Unitarian Church of Peoria
Reverend Jennifer Innis, Minister
November 15, 2020

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn “Lean on Me” by Bill Withers

Opening Words

Chalice Lighting

Sacred Story *The Cure* by Reverend Chris Buice

Joys and Sorrows

Meditation by Reverend Dan Schatz

Hymn “Listening” by Lea Morris

Sermon *How the Light Gets In* Reverend Jennifer Innis

Closing Hymn “Wake, Now, My Senses” by Reverend Thomas Mikelson

Sending Our Light into the World

Benediction

Postlude

Many thanks to our voices: Martha Diebold, the Fischer family, and Nora Sullivan
Thank you to Rosa Chang for the lovely music. Thank you to Austin Locke for technical support.
We have several sources for our music today. Our first hymn, “Lean on Me,” is performed by the
Minnesota Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Our special
music is “Listening” by Lea Morris. Her music is available to us through our subscription to Soul
Matters and their resources for monthly themes.
Our closing hymn is “Wake, Now, My Senses” by the late Unitarian Universalist minister,
Reverend Thomas Mikelson. Thank you to Community Church of New York, Unitarian
Universalist for this production.

Lyrics

“Lean on Me”

By Bill Withers

Sometimes in our lives we all have pain
We all have sorrow
But if we are wise
We know that there's always tomorrow

Lean on me, when you're not strong
And I'll be your friend
I'll help you carry on
For it won't be long
'Til I'm gonna need
Somebody to lean on

Please swallow your pride
If I have things you need to borrow
For no one can fill those of your needs
That you won't let show

Lean on me, when you're not strong
And I'll be your friend
I'll help you carry on
For it won't be long
'Til I'm gonna need
Somebody to lean on

If there is a load you have to bear
That you can't carry
I'm right up the road
I'll share your load
If you just call on me

Lean on me, when you're not strong
And I'll be your friend
I'll help you carry on
For it won't be long
'Til I'm gonna need
Somebody to lean on

You just call on me brother, when you need
a hand
We all need somebody to lean on
I just might have a problem that you'll

“Lean on Me”, con't.

understand
We all need somebody to lean on.

“Listening”

By Lea Morris

Soprano:
I'm listening
I'm listening
Spirit speak to me
I'm listening
I'm listening
Spirit speak to me
Open.

Open.
Open.
See what I may be.
I'm listening
I'm listening
Spirit speak to me.

Alto:
I'm listening
I'm listening
Spirit speak to me
I'm listening
I'm listening
Spirit speak to me
My hands are wide open.
My eyes are wide open to see what I may
be.
I'm listening
I'm listening
Spirit speak to me

Tenor:
In this moment of silence,
I can hear the voices of all my kin
Clicking, tweeting, singing, howling in to
the me.
Oh the joy, oh the love
That's here for you and me.

In this moment of silence
I hear.

Bass:
I'm listening
I'm listening
Spirit speak to me.
I'm listening
I'm listening
Spirit speak to me.
Open.
Open.
See what I may be.
I'm listening
I'm listening
Spirit speak to me

Wake, now, my vision of ministry clear;
brighten my pathway with radiance here;
mingle my calling with all who will share;
work toward a planet transformed by our
care.

“Wake, Now, My Senses”
By Thomas Mikelson

Wake, now, my senses, and hear the earth
call;
feel the deep power of being in all;
keep, with the web of creation your vow,
giving, receiving as love shows us how.

Wake, now, my reason, reach out to the
new;
join with each pilgrim who quests for the
true;
honor the beauty and wisdom of time;
suffer thy limit, and praise the sublime.

Wake, now, compassion, give heed to the
cry;
voices of suffering fill the wide sky;
take as your neighbor both stranger and
friend,
praying and striving their hardship to end.

Wake, now, my conscience, with justice thy
guide;
join with all people whose rights are denied;
take not for granted a privileged place;
God's love embraces the whole human race.