

“The Edge: Imagination and Transformation”
Order of Worship
Universalist Unitarian Church of Peoria
Reverend Allison Farnum
January 24, 2021

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Song “I Wish I Knew How” by Billy Taylor & Dick Dallas

Opening Words

Chalice Lighting

Sacred Story *Missing Daddy* by Mariame Kaba

Joys and Sorrows

Meditation Reverend Allison Farnum

Reading “there is an edge (ode to
radical imagination)” by Adrienne Maree Brown

Hymn “When I Am Frightened” by Shelley Jackson Denham

Sermon *The Edge: Imagination and
Transformation* Reverend Allison Farnum

Closing Hymn “Lean on Me” by Bill Withers

Sending Our Light into the World

Benediction

Postlude

Many thanks to our voices, including Char Rickey and Amy Popp. Thank you to Rosa Chang for the music. Thank you to Austin Locke for technical support.

Our hymns and music come from several sources. Thank you to the Prairie Unitarian Universalist Church of Parker, CO for permission to share “I Wish I Knew How” performed by Deirdre Thompson & Eric Moon. Thank you to Minnesota Valley UU Fellowship for their recordings of “When I Am Frightened” and “Lean on Me.”

Lyrics

“I Wish I Knew How”

I wish I knew how
It would feel to be free
I wish I could break
All the chains holdin’ me
I wish I could say
All the things that I should say
Say ‘em loud, say ‘em clear
For the whole round world to hear

I wish I could share
All the love that’s in my heart
Remove all the bars
That keep us apart
I wish you could know
What it means to be me
Then you’d see and agree
That every man should be free

I wish I could give
All I’m longin’ to give
I wish I could live
Like I’m longing to live
I wish I could do
All the things that I can do
And though I’m way overdue
I’d be startin’ anew

Well, I wish I could be
Like a bird in the sky
How sweet it would be
If I found I could fly
Oh, I’d soar to the sun
And look down at the sea
Then I’d sing ‘cause I’d know, yeah
Then I’d sing ‘cause I’d know, yeah
I’d sing ‘cause I’d know
How it feels to be free
How it feels to be free

“When I Am Frightened”

When I am frightened,
will you reassure me?
When I’m uncertain,
will you hold my hand?
Will you be strong for me,
sing to me quietly?
Will you share some of
your stories with me?
If you will show me compassion,
then I may learn to care as you do,
then I may learn to care.

When I am angry,
will you still embrace me?
When I am thoughtless,
will you understand?
Will you believe in me,
stand by me willingly?
Will you share some of
your questions with me?
If you will show me acceptance,
then I may learn to give as you do,
then I may learn to give.

When I am troubled, will you listen to me?
When I am lonely, will you be my friend?
Will you be there for me,
comfort me tenderly?
Will you share some of
your feelings with me?
If you will show me commitment,
then I may learn to love as you do,
then I may learn to love.

“Lean on Me”

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 understand
We all need somebody to lean on.