

**“The Body of Freedom”
Order of Worship
Universalist Unitarian Church of Peoria
Reverend Jennifer Innis
January 17, 2021**

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Song “King for a Day” by Reverend Jason Shelton

Opening Words

Chalice Lighting

Sacred Story *Martin’s Big Words* by Doreen Rappaport

Joys and Sorrows

Meditation “. . .Imagination Awakening Us. . .” by Reverend Sara LaWall

Reading from *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates

Hymn “Can I See Another’s Woe?” by William Blake

Sermon *The Body of Freedom* Reverend Jennifer Innis

Closing Hymn “Answering the Call of Love” by Reverend Jason Shelton

Sending Our Light into the World

Benediction

Postlude

Many thanks to our voices, including Ron Burkey, Reverend Marcus Fogliano, and Kari Schimmel and family. 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 Association for Unitarian Universalist Music Ministries for permission to share their production of Reverend Jason Shelton’s “King for a Day.” Thank you to Jess Huetteman for the video of “Can I See Another’s Woe?” Thank you to Community Church of New York Unitarian Universalist for their version of “Answering the Call of Love.”

Lyrics

“King for a Day”

Reverend Jason Shelton

He had a dream of a world free of hatred and anger

He had a dream of a love beyond race, creed, or color

He had a dream and he gave it to me
What will I do with it? Who will I be?

I've got to stand up, shout, and be heard
I've got to let my heart guide my words!
I've got to steady my feet and say,
“What would it be like if you were King for a day?”

He had a dream that all violence would one day be ended.

His dream. Our dream.

He had a dream that our world torn apart would be mended.

His dream. Our dream.

He had a dream for you and for me.
What will we do with it? Who will we be?

We've got to stand up, shout and be heard.
We've got to let our heart guide our words!
We've got to steady our feet and say,
“What would it be like if you were king for a day?”

Would you feed those who hunger,
refresh those who thirst?

Would you welcome the stranger
and comfort the sick?

Would you clothe the naked
and set captives free?

Would you work for justice
to bring about peace?

Would you hope for the future,
unsure what it brings?

Would you have the courage
to dream your own dream?

He had a dream that one day we'd be here
singing together

His dream. Our dream.

He had a dream and we're making it happen
together

His dream. Our dream.

He had a dream for you and for me.

What will we do with it? Who will we be?

We're gonna stand up, shout, and be heard!

We're gonna let our heart guide our words!

We're gonna steady our feet and say,

“What would it be like if you were King for a day?”

King for a day? (repeat)

What would the world be like if you were
King for a day?

“Can I See Another's Woe?”

William Blake

Can I see another's woe,
and not be in sorrow too?
Can I see another's grief,
and not seek for kind relief?

Can I see a falling tear,
and not feel my sorrow's share?
Can a father see his child weep,
nor be with sorrow filled?

Can a mother sit and hear
infant groan, an infant fear?
No, no, never can it be!
Never, never can it be!

“Answering the Call of Love”

Reverend Jason Shelton

The promise of the Spirit:
faith, hope and love abide.
And so ev'ry soul

is blessed and made whole;
the truth in our hearts is our guide.

Chorus:

We are answering the call of love:
hands joined together as hearts beat as one.
Emboldened by faith, we dare to proclaim
we are answering the call of love.

Sometimes we build a barrier
to keep love tightly bound.
Corrupted by fear,
unwilling to hear,
denying the beauty we've found.

Chorus

A bright new day is dawning
when love will not divide.
Reflections of grace
in ev'ry embrace,
fulfilling the vision divine.

Chorus