**Central Baptist Church**

**Sunday, April 3, 2022**

 

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community*

*inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

***~Henri Nouwen, priest, professor, theologian***

**Welcome/Announcements**

**\*Hymn**  *Rejoice, the Lord Is King* No. 228

**Call to Worship**
One: Come, let us gather this day and worship the Lord!
***All:* Let us lift our praise to God in our songs and our anthems!**

One: Let us praise the Lord in our words and our readings,

***All:* And let us turn our hearts to the Lord whose love has made us**

 **whole. Blessed be the name of the Lord!**

**Prayer of Invocation**

One: God's love is real. God’s love is mysterious and mystical.

 Do you feel it? Do you sense it?

***All: Yes, God’s love is alive in this place and within us. We say, come***

 ***Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with the light of Your love. Send forth***

 ***Your Heavenly Spirit to renew the hearts of all people.***

One: Savor what your heart is feeling. Rejoice in the comfort of the Spirit’s

 presence.

***All: Holy Spirit, You are God. Thank You for dwelling in our heart and***

 ***soul. Open our eyes to the truth; to see You more clearly, believe***

 ***in Your magnificence and recognize Your guidance and movement***

 ***in our lives.***

One: Let our thoughts and attitudes spark into a roaring flame of God’s love

 that overflows with compassion and goodness.

***All: Filled by Your Spirit, may we be empowered to testify about Your***

 ***omnipotent grace to those who need Your transforming power in***

 ***their lives.***

**Gloria Patri** No. 623

***Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end Amen, Amen***

**Anthem***It's A Long and Lonesome Journey*

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

*~Silent Meditation~*

**Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer**

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

**Offering & Friendship Forms**

*Please pass the black friendship pad along your pew so that each person may sign. If you would like to set up a visit or meeting with the pastor or know of another who may want a visit, please make a notation on the forms.*

\***Doxology** No. 625

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men***

**Scripture**

Romans 15:1-6; 30-33; Acts 2:42-47

**Message** *The “E” Challenge*

**Holy Communion**

 ***Communion offering will go to the Discretionary Fund***

**Closing Anthem** *Cherubic Hymn #7*

Ukrainian composer Dmitry Bortinansky

**Benediction**

***The Worship is ended...Our Service Now Begins***

 \*Please stand if you are able