Dr. Charles Thomas Fitts

In Memory Of

Date of Birth

July 4, 1932

Date of Death November 4, 2008

Place & Time of Service
St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
November 8, 2008
11:00 A.M.

Place of Burial Private

Officiating Reverend Matt Moye

Arrangements By
J. Henry Stuhr, Inc.
Charleston, South Carolina
www.jhenrystuhr.com

God gives us each a gift of life
To cherish from our birth.
He gives us friends and those we love
To share our days on Earth.

He watches us with loving care
And takes us by the hand,
He blesses us with countless joys
And guides the lives we've planned.

Then, when our work on Earth is done,
He calls us to His side,
To live with Him in happiness
Where peace and love abide.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church Charleston, South Carolina



Saturday, November 8, 2008 11:00 AM

A Celebration of the Resurrection with Joy and Thanksgiving for the life of

Dr. Charles Thomas Fitts, M.D. July 4, 1932 – November 4, 2008

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

405 King Street - Charleston, South Carolina 29403

WELCOME!

The Funeral Service is a service of worship and all present are invited to participate in the singing of hymns selected by the family and in the responses in the service.

Following the sending hymn, family and friends are invited to a reception at Embassy Suites, 337 Meeting Street, Charleston.

We extend heartfelt thanks to those who helped with the reception and the multitude of logistics for our service today.

We encourage the discipline of silence for personal devotion and prayer upon entering the sanctuary. We kindly request that all phones, pagers, and other electronic devices be turned off or placed in the silent mode.

Those parking in the public garage adjacent to the church may have your ticket validated by presenting this worship bulletin to the parking attendant as you exit the garage.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister

The Rev. Matthew O. Moye

Pastor, All Saints Lutheran Church

2107 Highway 17 North

Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Crucifer

Mr. Matthew A. Carter

Lector

Miss Summer Fitts

Organist

Mr. Kevin Gordon

Choir

The Plantation Singers

Ms. Lynnette White, Director (plantationsingers@yahoo.com)

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GATHERING

Sit

PRELUDES

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Stand

INTRODUCTION

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world.

We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen,
to remember before God our brother, Tom, to give thanks for his life,
to commend him to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

We glorify you.

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

We praise you.

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

We worship you.

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In

Oh, when the saints go marching in, Oh, when the saints go marching in, Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, When the saints go marching in.

Oh, when the sun refuse to shine, Oh, when the sun refuse to shine, Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number

Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, When the sun refuse to shine.

Oh, when they crown Him Lord of Lords, Oh, when they crown Him Lord of Lords, Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, When they crown Him Lord of Lords.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother, Tom. We thank you for giving him to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sit

REFLECTIONS AND REMEMBRANCES

Jim Powers, M.D.

P.R. (Raja) Rajagopalan, M.D.

THE LESSONS

INTERLUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL

The sermon is followed by a brief silence for reflection

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Congregation sings



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CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Kneel or sit PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ. God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Surround with wisdom all who research and treat diseases. Bring forth the day when sorrow and pain will be no more and all will be restored to wholeness. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

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 and ever. Amen

SENDING

COMMENDATION

Let us commend Tom to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer. Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Tom. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

Amen.

Let us go forth in peace, in the name of Christ. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Congregation sings

I'll Fly Away

Some glad morning when this life is o'er, I'll fly away. To a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away.

Refrain:

I'll fly away, oh glory, I'll fly, fly away

When I die, hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.

Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away. To a land where joys shall never end, I'll fly away.

Refrain:

I'll fly away, oh glory, I'll fly, fly away

When I die, hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.

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POSTLUDES