

Celebrating the Resurrection Faith

in memory of

Carolyn Edman Uchtorff

July 1, 1938 – October 11, 2026



October 23, 2026

11:00 am

Saint James Lutheran Church

Fayetteville, NC

Presiding: Rev. John Locke

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Don't Try to hold God's hand; let him hold yours.

Let him do the holding and you the trusting

(Isaiah 41:13 / Psalm 73:23)

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit, the comforter, gathers us in worship. A funeral pall is placed over the urn, symbolic of the baptismal promise to be covered with the love of Christ.

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 sister, Carolyn,
to give thanks for her life,
to commend her to our merciful redeemer,
and to comfort one another in our grief.

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

Just As I Am, Without One Plea

ELW 592

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

Let us pray. O God of grace and glory,
we remember before you today our sister, Carolyn.
We thank you for giving her 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.**

Scripture Reading Psalm 105:1-6

- ¹ O give thanks to the Lord; call on his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- ² Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.
- ³ Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- ⁴ Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually.
- ⁵ Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles and the judgments he has uttered,
- ⁶ O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

Scripture Reading Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven
and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

- ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out

of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God;

⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true."

⁶ Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

Memories of Carolyn

Steven Grimes

Music

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

ELW 742

Gospel Matthew 11:25-30

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Apostles 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

(Each petition will end with "God of mercy,"

Congregation will respond with "**Hear our prayer.**")

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 and ever. Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Commendation

*We commend Carolyn Uchtorff to the mercy of God,
our maker and redeemer.*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior,
we commend your servant Carolyn.
Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you,
a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock,
a sinner of your own redeeming.
Receive her into the arms of your mercy,
into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and
into the glorious company of the saints in light.

The Blessing

Now may the God of peace,
who through the blood of the eternal covenant
brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great Shepherd of the sheep,
equip you with every good thing to do His will.
And may He accomplish in us
what is pleasing in His sight
through Jesus Christ,
to whom be glory forever and ever. (*Hebrews 13:20-21*)
The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace. (*Numbers 6:24-26*). **Amen.**
Let us go in peace. **Amen.**

The funeral worship is a service of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving to God for the blessed memories of our loved one, Carolyn, who has departed this life for the victory over death made possible through Christ. You are invited therefore, to participate joyfully in this final tribute to her life and faith. Grief and sorrow are natural, but the resurrection of our Lord is the focal point of our worship.

You are invited to greet the family in the Fellowship Hall downstairs following the worship service.



Pianist
Ushers

Michael Macias
Gary Eissinger
John Frinak
Tonie Neal



Carolyn was born on July 1, 1938 in Libertyville, Illinois. Carolyn was a deep loving, strong and funny woman whose devotion to her family was a defining part of her life. Her faith in God was central to who she was, providing a foundation for the love she shared and the life she lived.

More than a sister, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, Carolyn was a source of love, comfort, and cherished memories. Her presence helped shape the lives of those closest to her, and the bonds she nurtured will remain a lasting part of her family's story.

Carolyn leaves behind her sister; Marlene Fischer; her three daughters, Sally and her husband, David Hanson; Taylor and her husband, Roger Lucas; and Julie Kuhrt. She is also survived by her two granddaughters, Samantha and her husband, Derek Scott; and Alyssa and her husband, Steven Grimes; and her two great-granddaughters, Charlotte and Ella.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jeannette and Olaf Edman; her sister, Barbara and her husband, Ron Stark, Marlene's beloved husband, Will Fischer; Julie's beloved husband, Robert Kuhrt, whom Carolyn lovingly thought of and called him, her son; and Samantha and Derek's child, Asher. Each remains a cherished part of the family's story and memories.

Carolyn's life was a blessing, her love a lasting gift, and her faith a guiding light. Though Carolyn's passing leaves a deep sadness in the hearts of those who love her, they find comfort in their faith in God and the promise of eternal life. Her family will carry her love and the memories they share in their hearts. Her story does not end there, for the love she planted will continue to grow through the generations that follow.