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JESUS  
THE WAY,   
 THE TRUTH,  
THE LIFE. 

## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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FRIDLEY, MN 55432

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**Pastor:** John P. Hein

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**Organist:** Sue Nelson

**Date:** March 17, 2014 – 10:00 am

† LYLE LOUIS LACROIX †

### Invocation & Prayer:

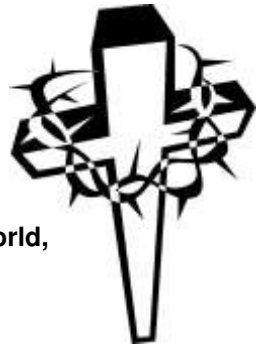
Opening Hymn: .....The Old Rugged Cross

1. On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,  
the emblem of suffering and shame;  
and I love that old cross where the Dearest and Best  
for a world of lost sinners was slain.

**Refrain:**

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,  
till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross,  
and exchange it some day for a crown.

2. O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,  
has a wondrous attraction for me;  
for the dear Lamb of God left His glory above  
to bear it to dark Calvary.  
(Refrain)
3. In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,  
a wondrous beauty I see,  
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,  
to pardon and sanctify me.  
(Refrain)
4. To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,  
its shame and reproach gladly bear;  
then He'll call me some day to my home far away,  
where His glory forever I'll share.  
(Refrain)



## **Brief Biography: ..... With TLH 648: I Am Jesus' Little Lamb**

The pilgrimage of Lyle Louis LaCroix through this world of sin and sorrow into the victorious glory of heaven may be summed up as follows: His earthly pilgrimage began when he was born on May 17, 1925, in Forest Grove Township, MN, the son of Louis and Elma (nee Larson) LaCroix. Lyle became a child of God by the power of the Holy Spirit through Holy Baptism on June 21, 1925, at Bethesda Lutheran Church in Forest Grove Township. Galatians 3:26-27: *"For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ."*

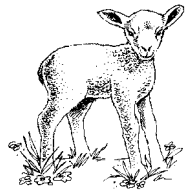
**SING(♩): I am Jesus' little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am;  
For my Shepherd gently guides me,  
Knows my need, and well provides me,  
Loves me every day the same,  
Even calls me by my name.**

Lyle honorably served his country in the Pacific Theatre during World War II. He was in the 6th Infantry Division of the United States Army from August of 1943 until January of 1945. He worked in demolitions and as a cook primarily in the Philippine Islands. For his service, Lyle was honored with the Silver Star Medal.

Upon his release from the Army, Lyle married Florence Cole on February 2, 1946, at Kelliher, MN. The Lord blessed their union with one child, Linda, and with 68 years of Christian companionship. Lyle worked in multiple vocations for 65 years: as a logger, miner, rancher, carpenter, trucker, in trucking management, and as a chauffeur. Upon retiring he volunteered at a local food bank. His hobbies included fishing and hunting, and in later years he was a jigsaw puzzle enthusiast.

Lyle was a charter member at Grace Lutheran Church in Fridley, MN. He was led to believe in the payment His Savior made for his sins: *"For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's"* (1 Corinthians 6:20).

**SING(♩): Day by day, at home, away,  
Jesus is my Staff and Stay.  
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,  
Into pleasant pastures leads me;  
When I thirst, He bids me go  
Where the quiet waters flow.**



Lyle was summoned to be with his Savior on March 7, 2014, his time of grace here on earth being 88 years, 9 months, and 18 days. His earthly remains will be laid to rest at Fort Snelling, awaiting the resurrection on the Last Day of the world when our Lord will invite all of His believers: *"Come, you blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world"* (Matthew 25:34).

Lyle was preceded in death by young son, Gregory Lyle; five siblings - two in infancy, Leah, Caroline and Martha; father, Louis; and mother, Elma. He is survived by his wife, Florence; daughter, Linda (Dennis) West; grandchildren, Lee (Susan) West and Nicole (Jeff) Magandy; great grandchildren, Thomas and Tyler West and Olivia and Paige Magandy; sister, Lois Myllykangas; other relatives and friends. We are thankful for the Lord blessing us with Lyle in our lives. Job 1:21: "The LORD gave, the LORD has taken away. Blessed be the name of the LORD."

**SING(♫):** Who so happy as I am,  
Even now the Shepherd's lamb?  
And when my short life is ended,  
By His angel host attended,  
He shall fold me to His breast,  
There within His arms to rest. Amen.

**Scripture Readings of Comfort:**

**Hymn:..... TLH 436: The Lord's My Shepherd I'll Not Want**

- 1. The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; He leadeth me The quiet waters by.
- 2. My soul He doth restore again  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness,  
E'en for His own name's sake.
- 3. Yea, tho' I walk in death's dark vale,  
Yet will I fear no ill;  
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod  
And staff me comfort still.
- 4. My table Thou hast furnished  
In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,  
And my cup overflows.
- 5. Goodness and mercy, all my life,  
Shall surely follow me;  
And in God's house forevermore  
My dwelling place shall be.



**Sermon: .....John 14:1-6**

<sup>1</sup> "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. <sup>2</sup>In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And where I go you know, and the way you know." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (NKJV™)

**"Lyle's Final Puzzle: Solved through Christ"**

**Prayer:**

**Duet:** ..... The Lord’s Prayer (James Sydow & Pastor Hein)

**Benediction:**

**Closing Hymn:** ..... TLH 200: I Know that My Redeemer Lives

- 1. I know that my Redeemer lives;  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;  
He lives, my ever-living Head.
- 2. He lives triumphant from the grave,  
He lives eternally to save,  
He lives all-glorious in the sky,  
He lives exalted there on high.
- 7. He lives and grants me daily breath;  
He lives, and I shall conquer death:  
He lives my mansion to prepare;  
He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8. He lives, all glory to His name!  
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives,  
“I know that my Redeemer lives!”



**Announcements:**

- † Everyone is invited to stay for a fellowship meal in the church’s fellowship hall following the service.
- † Lyle’s family extends a word of thanks to all who have been supportive and encouraging during this time of their temporary loss yet Lyle’s great gain.
- † Memorials may be directed to Grace Lutheran Church.
- † A 1:30 pm committal service will be held at Fort Snelling. A motorcade will escort those who wish to attend.

