

"The Old Rugged Cross" ...Vs. 4
To the 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. So I'll
cherish the old (cross) rugged cross, (the old
rugged cross), till my trophies at last I lay
down; I will cling to the old (cross) rugged
cross, (the old rugged cross), and exchange it
some day for a crown.

Closing Prayer

L: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we are here for the blessing of a new cross. Let us venerate in faith the eternal plan by which God has made the cross of Christ the pre-eminent sign of his mercy.

All: As we look upon the cross, let us call to mind that on it Christ brought to completion his life-giving love for us, for the Church, and for all people.

L: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Father all holy, for your boundless love. The tree, which once was the source of shame and death for humankind, has become the cross of our redemption and life.

All: "When His hour had come to return to you in glory, the Lord Jesus, our King, our Priest, and our Teacher, freely mounted the scaffold of the cross and made it His royal throne, His altar of sacrifice, His pulpit of truth.

L: On the cross, lifted above the earth, He triumphed over our age-old enemy. Cloaked in His own blood, He drew all things to Himself.

All: On the cross, he opened out his arms and offered you his life: the sacrifice of the New Law that gives to the sacraments their saving power.

L: On the cross, He proved what He had prophesied: that the grain of wheat must die to bring forth an abundant harvest.

All: Father, we honor this cross as the sign of our redemption, and we ask that you pour out your blessings upon it that all might see its life-giving power.

L: May we reap the harvest of salvation planted in pain by Christ Jesus. May our sins be nailed to his cross, the power of life released, pride conquered, and weakness turned to strength.

**All: Grant this through Christ our Lord.
AMEN.**

DEDICATION OF THE CROSS BY THE LAKE MAY 24TH, 2015



**THANKS
TO
THE MEN OF FAITH,
WHO PROVIDED
THIS CROSS
TO
THE HONOR
AND
GLORY OF GOD.**

GATHERING

Hymn of Praise

"The Old Rugged Cross" ...Vs. 1

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

Call To Worship

A. We praise the Lord for the cross of Christ!

C. We praise the Lord for Christ's willingness to bear it.

A. By the cross we are saved.

C. With the cross we are baptized.

A. Under the cross we live.

C. Because of the cross we are forgiven.

"The Old Rugged Cross" ...Vs. 2

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

Lesson From.....2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11-12

From Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! We ought to thank God always for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith flourishes more and more and the love of each one of you all for one another is ever greater. As a result, we ourselves boast about you in the churches of God for your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and afflictions you are enduring. This is evidence of God's righteous judgment, to make you worthy of the kingdom of God, for which, in fact, you are suffering. When He comes to be glorified among His saints and admired on that day among all who have believed—and you did, in fact, believe our testimony. And, in this regard, we pray for you always, that our God will make you worthy of his calling and fulfill by his power your every desire for goodness and every work of faith.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
THANKS BE TO GOD.

The Offering

Anthem....."An Inscription of Praise"

Kid's Time

The Message....."The Best of Sinners"

"The Old Rugged Cross"...Vs. 3

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

Galatians 6:14-15

For my part, I am going to boast about nothing but the Cross of our Master, Jesus Christ. Because of that Cross, I have been crucified in relation to the world, set free from the stifling atmosphere of pleasing others and fitting into the little patterns that they dictate. Can't you see the central issue in all this? It is not what you and I do—submit to circumcision, reject circumcision. It is what God is doing; and He is creating something totally new, a free life!