

HE WAS THERE
Palm Sunday 2006

Have the people who once praised you turned their backs on you?

He was there.

Have you ever been “it,” the person everyone wanted to know and be near, and then, suddenly, you’re yesterday’s news, and all alone?

He was there.

Have the people you trusted the most, the people you thought were your best friends, betrayed your trust and your friendship?

He was there.

Has someone ever set themselves up over you as judge and jury and condemned you without reason and without cause?

He was there.

Have your best efforts been misunderstood by the very people for whom you have worked so hard?

He was there.

Have you ever set your own needs aside to take care for someone else, and have never been thanked?

He was there.

Have you ever been abused and mistreated and you had to endure it, and you couldn't do anything about it?

He was there.

Have you spoken a truth someone doesn't want to hear and been met with anger or violence?

He was there.

Have you ever heard your words twisted and their meaning perverted?

He was there.

Have you ever tried to change things that need to change but nothing changes?

He was there.

Has everything you have done seemed to amount to nothing?

He was there.

Have you ever been rejected by the very people you have tried to help?

He was there.

Have you ever had to bear a burden too heavy for one person to carry but you bore it nonetheless and by yourself?

He was there.

Have you ever felt as if you had been nailed to a cross and left to die by the hatred or indifference of others?

He was there.

Has all this happened to you but you have forgiven those who made it happen?

He was there.

Has all this happened to you but you have never doubted God's grace and mercy?

He was there.

Has all this happened to you and you knew God would turn it all around?

He was there.

Has the heavy stone been rolled back from the tomb where your hope was buried, and with a suddenness and a surety that cannot be understood but cannot be denied all of God's promises come true?

He was there.

And we will be there, too.