

SONG OF SACRIFICE This anthem paints a vivid and poignant picture of Good Friday. The drama of the event is depicted through dramatic words, so work hard to completely communicate the message. Several of the passages lend themselves to solo or duet moments, so consider using those to add vocal variety (as well as reducing full group rehearsal time if desired during the busy Lenten season).

Ruth Elaine Schram wrote her first song at the age of twelve, and her first octavo was published twenty years later, in 1988. In 1992, she became a full-time composer and arranger and now has over 2,000 published works. Over seventeen million copies of her songs have been purchased in their various venues, and she has been a recipient of the ASCAP Special Award each year since 1990. In addition to her choral music for church and school choirs, her songs appear on thirty albums (four of which have been Dove Award Finalists) and numerous children's videos, including sixteen songs on four gold videos, and four songs on one multi-platinum video. Her songs have also appeared on such diverse television shows as The 700 Club and HBO's acclaimed series The Sopranos.

Ruthie began piano and theory lessons at the age of five. She studied music at Lancaster Bible College and Millersville State College and taught Elementary Music in Pennsylvania for several years. She now lives in Birmingham, Alabama with her husband, Scott, and they have two grown daughters, Crystie and Celsie.

Song of Sacrifice

with "Were You There"

3

Words and Music by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM

Incorporating
"Were You There"

Traditional African-American Spiritual

Thoughtfully (♩ = ca. 76)

1/9

ACCOMP. *p* bring out melody

4

2/9

8

TENOR *mp unis.*

BASS

They cru - ci - fied my Lord to-day. They nailed Him to a

11

cross of shame. His sa - cred brow a - dorned with a crown of

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poco rall. *a tempo*

thorns; they mocked and scorned His ho - ly Name.

poco rall. *a tempo*

16 SOPRANO

mp unis.

17

ALTO

His trust - ed friends had fled in fear.

17

rall. *a tempo*

His moth - er wept great, bit - ter tears. Her pre - cious, ho - ly

rall. *a tempo*

18

rall. *a tempo*

His moth - er wept great, bit - ter tears. Her pre - cious, ho - ly

rall. *a tempo*

21

poco rall.

Son, the One who'd done no wrong— the Spot-less Lamb of

poco rall.

4/9

23

a tempo

God was He.

mf

25

They cru-ci-fied my

*mf**a tempo**mf*

25

26

Lord,

They nailed Him to a tree.

They

pierced Him with a sword. He died in ag - o -

poco rall.

in ag - o -

poco rall.

ny.

ny. ag - o - ny. The Sav - ior was the

mp *unis.*

ny.

mp

34 *a tempo*
cresc. poco a poco

sac - ri - fice. He free - ly paid the

mp unis. cresc. poco a poco

34 The Sav - ior was the sac - ri - fice.

a tempo
cresc. poco a poco

36

high - est price; _____ and there on Cal-v'ry's

He free - ly paid the high - est price; on Cal-v'ry's

mf

mf

mf

38

hill, the Fa - ther's will ful - filled, will - ing - ly He

hill,

rall.

rall.

40

gave His life. _____ Were you there when they

gave His life. Were you there?

a tempo

a tempo

a tempo

42

42

cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?

O!

poco rall.

52 *a tempo* *rall.*
p

Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,

a tempo *p* *rall.* *pp* *p* *pp*

56 *a tempo* *mp*

trem - ble. Were you there when they

trem - ble. *mp*

p a tempo *mp*

59 *molto rit.*
Lord?

cru - ci - fied my Lord, were you there? There on Cal-v'ry's

unis. *molto rit.*

62

*a tempo**unis.**rall.*

hill, the Fa - ther's will ful - filled; will - ing - ly He

62

*a tempo**rall.*

64

*a tempo**rit.*

gave His life. _____

a tempo

bring out melody

rit.

68

p

Were you there? _____

*p**p**pp*