

WE WERE NOT THERE

We Are There

Text and music by Rev. Chris Shelton



SPECIAL OFFERINGS



1. We were not there out on the hill-side when the hea - vens rang with
2. (We were not) there a - round the ta - ble, when he shared the bro - ken



joy or when the shep - herds sought the sav - ior in the hay— a help-less
bread or when he poured the cup of bless - ing as they pon - dered all he



boy— but ev-'ry time we ech - o an - gels speak - ing words of peace on
said, but ev-'ry time we set a ta - ble where all hun - gry hearts can



earth, and ev-'ry time we live as shep - herds, risk - ing mo - ments of new
eat, and ev-'ry time we wel - come neigh - bors and we add an ex - tra



birth, and ev-'ry time we see God giv - ing gifts be - yond all earth - ly
seat, and ev-'ry time we live as ser - vants, free to wash each oth - er's



worth, then we are there out on that hill - side. In our
feet, then we are there a - round that Ta - ble. In our



liv - ing, in our giv - ing, we are there.
liv - ing, in our giv - ing, we are there.



2. We were not

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1. We were not there out on the hillside
when the heavens rang with joy
or when the shepherds sought the savior
in the hay—a helpless boy—
but every time we echo angels
speaking words of peace on earth,
and every time we live as shepherds,
risking moments of new birth,
and every time we see God giving
gifts beyond all earthly worth,
then we are there out on that hillside.
In our living,
in our giving,
we are there.
2. We were not there upon the waters
as they sailed the raging seas
or when they cried, “O Jesus help us!”
then he woke, and spoke of peace,
but every time the world is troubled
and we dare to wake and see,
and every time our neighbors call us,
and we stand with those in need,
and every time we are peacemakers,
and the fearful are set free,
then we are there upon those waters.
In our living,
in our giving,
we are there.
3. We were not there around the table,
when he shared the broken bread
or when he poured the cup of blessing
as they pondered all he said,
but every time we set a table
where all hungry hearts can eat,
and every time welcome neighbors
and we add an extra seat,
and every time we live as servants,
free to wash each other’s feet,
then we are there around that Table.
In our living,
in our giving,
we are there.
4. We were not there within the garden
where his wounded body lay,
or when the women came at sunrise
and the stone was rolled away,
but every time we face disaster
as those women bold and strong,
and every time we share our sorrows,
bringing right where there was wrong,
and every time we free the captives
with a resurrection song,
then we are there within that garden.
In our living,
in our giving,
we are there.
5. We were not there with the disciples,
when the Spirit broke through walls,
or when the Church was born in blazes
by the One who seeks and calls,
but every time we break divisions
in the work of unity,
and every time we act with courage,
setting hopes and visions free,
and every time we teach our children
of the world God longs to see,
then we are there, we are disciples.
In our living,
in our giving,
we are there.

Written by Rev. Chris Shelton, pastor of
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