Preface

1 When Hope Is Hard

Stage One: We Are in a State of Shock

- 2. To Stand at a Distance
- 3. When You Don't Feel "Wonderfully Made": Shock and Yourself
- 4. If You Want to Talk: Shock and Others
- 5. In Bodies So Breakable: Shock and Creation
- 6. Draw Near, O Love: Shock and God

Stage Two: We Express Emotion

- 7. Sighs Too Deep for Words
- 8. Sometimes We Need Yells: Emotions and Yourself
- 9. Wounded Healers All: Emotions and Others
- 10. Dialogues with the World Around Us: Emotions and Creation
- 11. Being Honest with God: Emotions and God

Stage Three: We Feel Depressed and Lonely

- 12. A Necessary Slowing Down
- 13. Sometimes, a Stranger: Depression and Yourself
- 14. An Invisible Blanket: Depression and Others
- 15. When the Full Moon Is Hidden: Depression and Creation
- 16. Take My Hand, Precious Lord: Depression and God

Stage Four: We May Experience Physical Symptoms of Distress

- 17. I Am Weary with My Crying
- 18. I Just Don't Feel Like Myself: Your Body and Yourself
- 19. He Looks Up and Says "Thanks": Your Body and Others
- 20. To Rest in the Grace of the World: Your Body and Creation
- 21. Touched by God's Own Presence: Your Body and God

Stage Five: We May Become Panicky

- 22. Am I Losing My Mind?
- 23. When We Feel Powerless: Panic and Yourself
- 24. The Presence of One Who Shares: Panic and Others
- 25. The Promise of the Rainbow: Panic and Creation

26. A Healing Voice: Panic and God

Stage Six: We Feel a Sense of Guilt about the Loss

- 27. Create in Me a Clean Heart
- 28. We Can't Avoid It: Guilt and Yourself
- 29. We Do Have Options: Guilt and Others
- 30. To Blame or to Accept: Guilt and Creation
- 31. Steadfast Love and Mercy: Guilt and God

Stage Seven: We Are Filled with Anger and Resentment

- 32. A Gap ... An Emptiness
- 33. Wrestling Our Resentments: Anger and Yourself
- 34. We Don't Need a Scapegoat: Anger and Others
- 35. The Ability to Say Goodbye: Anger and Creation
- 36. Disappointed?: Anger and God

Stage Eight: We Resist Returning

- 37. To Remember, To Forget
- 38. Who Am I?: Returning and Yourself
- 39. Go Home to Your Friends: Returning and Others
- 40. For the Winter Is Now Past: Returning and Creation
- 41. An End to Childish Ways: Returning and God

Stage Nine: Gradually Hope Comes Through

- 42. Something Quite Unexpected
- 43. The Blue Water Ahead: Hope and Yourself
- 44. Friendships—New and Renewed: Hope and Others
- 45. All Nature Sings: Hope and Creation
- 46. Simple Things: Hope and God

Stage Ten: We Struggle to Affirm Reality

- 47. Not as Those Who Have No Hope
- 48. A New Home: Reality and Yourself
- 49. People Who Need People: Reality and Others
- 50. A Renewed World: Reality and Creation
- 51. The Day the Lord Has Made: Reality and God