

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Faber

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea,
and forgiveness in his justice
sealed for us on Calvary.
There is plentiful redemption
through the blood that Christ has shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.
2. For the love of God is broader
than the measures of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make his love too narrow
by false limits of our own,
and we magnify his strictness
with a zeal he will not own.
3. Restless souls, why do you scatter
like a crowd of frightened sheep?
Foolish hearts, why do you wander
from a love so true and deep?
If our love were but more simple,
we should take him at his word,
and our lives would be illumined
by the goodness of the Lord.

Lyrics: 87.87 D; Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, in his "Hymns" collection, 1862.