There's A Wideness In God's Mercy

NEWTON FERNS

with motion

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy, Like the wideness of the sea;
2. There is welcome for the sinner, And more graces for the good;
3. But we make His love too narrow By false limits of our own;
4. Souls of men! why will ye scatter Like a crowd of frightened sheep?

There's a kindness in His justice, Which is more than liberty.
There is mercy with the Saviour; There is healing in His Blood.
And we magnify His strictness With a zeal He will not own.
Foolish hearts! why will ye wander From a love so true and deep?

For the love of God is broader Than the measure of man's mind;
If our love were but more simple, We should take Him at His word;
There is no place where earth's sorrows Are more felt than up in Heav'n;
Was there ever kindest shepherd Half so gentle, half so sweet,

And the Heart of the Eternal Is most wonderfully kind.
And our lives would be all sunshine In the sweetness of our Lord.
There is no place where earth's failings Have such kindly judgment giv'n.
As the Saviour who would have us Come and gather round His feet?

Words: Frederick W. Faber
Music: Arr. From Samuel Smith by F. N. Shepperd, 1901

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