

# 435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two vocal parts (Soprano and Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The melody is simple and folk-like, with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness  
2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures  
of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,  
of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal  
which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's  
is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more  
sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place  
faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -  
where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.  
flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.

These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.