

Hymn of the Month is a new worship-focused series at Salem Hellers. Worship is the most important thing we do; as part of our efforts to enrich and deepen our worship, each month we will focus on one of the less familiar or more recently composed songs from *Hymns of Grace* that we hope will be appreciated and loved by our congregation. We will explore different ways to introduce and incorporate these songs throughout the month; we want to help you become comfortable with them. May we grow together in faith as we learn these theologically rich hymns and join our voices in corporate worship.

Listen to a recording of this month's hymn on our new website at www.salemhellers.com. Look for *Hymn of the Month* in the Worship tab menu and click on "visit the download page".



Hymn of the Month

July 2025



Merciful God
#413 Hymns of Grace

1

*Merciful God, oh, abounding in love,
faithful to all who draw near You;
hearing the cries of the humble in heart,
showing the cross they may cling to.
Helpless I come, broken in sin,
Found at the feet of Your mercy.
Father, forgive;
may my sin be remembered no more.*

2

*Merciful God, oh, abounding in love,
faithful through times we have failed You;
selfish in thought and uncaring in deed,
foolish in word and ungrateful.
Spirit of God, conquer our hearts
with love that flows from forgiveness.
Cause us to yield
and return to the mercy of God.*

3

*Merciful God, oh, abounding in love,
faithful to keep us from falling;
guiding our ways with Your fatherly heart,
growing our faith with each testing.
God speed the day struggles will end;
faultless we'll gaze on Your glory.
Then we will stand
overwhelmed by the mercy of God.*

Merciful God is positioned in our hymnal under the heading of "prayer and intercession". It is indeed a sung prayer that in each verse proclaims the mercy, love and faithfulness of our Heavenly Father. In contrast, we are sinners in need of forgiveness, relying on the Lord's guidance, and longing for the day we will stand before Him.

Modern hymn writers and frequent collaborators Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend once again have combined their gifts of music and verse in a tender, heartfelt, singable melody with a solid, scripturally grounded message.

Exodus 34:6 *The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.*

Psalms 86:15 *"But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness."*

Hebrews 8:12 *"For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more."*

Jude 24 *"Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy."*

What a blessing to join our hearts and voices in congregational singing that is solidly grounded in the Word of God!