

Lord, Have Mercy

for SATB voices, a cappella

Traditional

Undine Smith Moore, 1904–1989

Prayerfully, steady tempo, well accented (♩ = 63)

p misterioso

Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass

Have mer-cy,
Have mer-cy,
Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer-cy on - a - me.

Prayerfully, steady tempo, well accented (♩ = 63)

for rehearsal only

Keyboard

Editorial note: Undine Smith Moore was often referred to as the “Dean of Black Women Composers” and studied at Fisk University and Columbia University before teaching for forty-five years at Virginia State University. While many of her compositions are concert arrangements of African American spirituals, this piece is an original work written in the harmonic and melodic style of a spiritual. Church choirs singing this in worship may have fewer singers available, for which we have provided editorial suggestions.

—Anton Armstrong

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

5

Lord, _____ have mer-cy,

Lord, _____ have mer-cy,

p misterioso
 Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer-cy on - a - me.

9

subito f Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy, *mp* have

subito f Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy, have mer - cy, *mp* have

subito f Have mer - cy, have mer - cy, have *mp*

subito f Have mer - cy, have *mp*

12 *sfz*

mer - cy, Lord, on me, Lord, mer - cy, Lord, on - a -

sfz

mer - cy, Lord, on me, Lord, mer - cy on

sfz

mer - cy, Lord, on me, Lord, have mer - cy on

sfz

mer - cy, Lord, on me, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, on

15 *f*

me. Christ, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy on - a -

f

me. Christ, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy on - a -

f

me. Have mer - cy, Christ, have

f

me. Have mer - cy, Christ, have

The musical score is written for a choir and piano. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system (measures 12-14) features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a grand staff for piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'mer - cy, Lord, on me, Lord, mer - cy, Lord, on - a -' (Soprano), 'mer - cy, Lord, on me, Lord, mer - cy on' (Alto), 'mer - cy, Lord, on me, Lord, have mer - cy on' (Tenor), and 'mer - cy, Lord, on me, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, on' (Bass). The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. The second system (measures 15-18) features the same vocal and piano staves. The lyrics are: 'me. Christ, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy on - a -' (Soprano), 'me. Christ, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy on - a -' (Alto), 'me. Have mer - cy, Christ, have' (Tenor), and 'me. Have mer - cy, Christ, have' (Bass). The piano accompaniment continues. Dynamics include *sfz* and *f*. A large watermark 'SAMPLE' is overlaid on the score.

*Measures 15–18: a few sopranos (or in unison with altos).

LORD, HAVE MERCY

18

me, Christ, have mer - cy.

me, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy

mer-cy on me, mer-cy on me, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy

mer-cy on me, mer-cy on me, Christ, Christ,

22

Christ, have mer-cy on - a - me. *f* Ev - 'ry eve - ning,

Christ, have mer-cy on me, mer-cy on me. *f* Ev - 'ry eve - ning,

Christ, have mer-cy on me, mer-cy on me.

Christ, have mer-cy on me, mer-cy on me.

*Measures 25–27: a few sopranos (or in unison with altos).

26

ev - 'ry morn-ing, Christ, have mer-cy on me. —

ev - 'ry morn-ing,

f Ev - 'ry eve-ning, ev - 'ry morn-ing,

f Ev - 'ry eve-ning, ev - 'ry morn-ing,

30

Christ, have mer - cy on me. —

Christ, have mer - cy on me. —