

O what a happy thing it is

William Whittingham (1524-1579)

Psalm 133 verses 1-4

Ps 133, anon., (1746)
Edited by Francis Roads

[♩=120]

Soprano

Alto

Tenor [Air]

Bass

1. O what a hap - py thing it
 2. 'Tis like the pre - cious oint - ment
 3. And as the lo - wer ground doth
 4. E'en so the Lord doth pour on

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 2. 'Tis like the pre - cious oint - ment
 3. And as the lo - wer ground doth
 4. E'en so the Lord doth pour on

5

S

A

T

B

1. And joy - ful for_ to see Bre - thren to_ dwell to - ge - ther_
 2. Was poured on Aa - ron's head, Which from his beard down to_ the_
 3. The dew of Her - mon hill, And Zi - on with his sil - ver_
 4. His bles - sings ma - ni - fold, Whose hearts and minds sin - cere - ly_

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Edited from Michael Beesly's *A Collection of 20 New Psalm Tunes* (1746) BL A 1231.o (2), P. 168 in BL copy.
 The piece has been rebarred to follow the stress pattern of the text. The original is in 3/4 time throughout, starting on the first beat of the bar.

Bar 14 bass note 1: possible error for f⁴, (cf bar 16 alto note 1 and bass note 3.)

O what a happy thing it is

13

S
in skirts drops do Friend - Of The This

A
in skirts drops do Friend - ship Of his The fields This knot

T
8 in skirts drops do Friend - ship and u Of his rich gar The fields with fruit This knot fast keep

B
in skirts drops do Friend - ship and u Of his rich gar The fields with fruit This knot fast keep

17

S
ship and u ni ty! his rich gar ments spread. fields with fruit doth fill; knot fast keep and hold.

A
and rich u ni ty! with gar ments spread. fast fruit doth fill; keep and hold.

T
- - - - - ni ty! - - - - - ments spread. - - - - - doth fill; - - - - - and hold.

B
- - - - - ni ty! - - - - - ments spread. - - - - - doth fill; - - - - - and hold.