

Holy Manna

(Brethren We Have Met To Worship)

Form: AABA

J. W. Moore

Arranged by Sam Rizzetta © 1998

♩ = 105

A

Section A consists of four measures. The harmony part (top staff) has notes: A A B A F# E C# | E E F# E | A A B A F# E C# | A B A F# E. The melody part (middle staff) has notes: E E F# A A | B B A C# B A F# | E E F# A A | C# B A. The bass part (bottom staff) has notes: A A B F# | E | E F# A B | A A B C# B A F# | E F# A. The piece ends with a double bar line and the word 'End'.

B

Section B consists of four measures. The harmony part (top staff) has notes: A C# A B C# E | E F# | A C# A B C# E | E B A F# E. The melody part (middle staff) has notes: C# E E E | C# C# A B A | C# E E E | C# C# A B. The bass part (bottom staff) has notes: A A A A | A A C# F# | A A A A | A A C# E.

To play “Holy Manna” as a quartet, play the bass line one octave lower than written and double the melody one octave lower for the fourth part.

The melody of this old shape-note hymn is pentatonic. The five-note scale gives it a powerful and ancient quality. I wrote harmony and bass parts to make it work as a dulcimer trio or quartet. On a Rizzetta Extended Range Dulcimer or Dusty Strings D600 the bass part can be played an octave lower than written. “Holy Manna” is played as a quartet on the CD *Trapezoid*.

It is great fun to get together with other dulcimer players to play music in parts. I have included a few favorite quartet arrangements of old tunes along with my originals, so that you will have a number of ensembles to enjoy.