

*Salve caput cruentatum*

# O Sacred Head, Surrounded

Henry W. Baker / PASSION CHORALE

The image displays a musical score for a chorale in 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the piece concludes with a double bar line. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, while the bass clef provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

1. O Sacred Head, surrounded  
by crown of piercing thorn!  
O bleeding Head, so wounded,  
reviled and put to scorn!  
Death's pallid hue comes o'er you,  
the glow of life decays,  
yet angel hosts adore you  
and tremble as they gaze.

2. I see your strength and vigour  
all fading in the strife,  
and death with cruel rigour,  
bereaving you of life;  
O agony and dying!  
O love to sinners free!  
Jesus, all grace supplying,  
O turn your face on me.

3. In this, your bitter passion,  
Good Shepherd, think of me  
with your most sweet compassion,  
unworthy though I be:  
beneath your cross abiding  
for ever would I rest,  
in your dear love confiding,  
and with your presence blest.

Inspiration: "Salve caput cruentatum"; attributed to Bernard of Clairvaux, c. 1091-1152.

Lyrics: 76.76 D; Henry Williams Baker, 1821-1877, in "Hymns Ancient and Modern", 1861.

Music: PASSION CHORALE; "Mein G'müt ist mir verwirret", Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612; adapted and arranged by Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750.