

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 time signature is 4/4. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including quarter notes, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes, often grouped with slurs. There are several fermatas placed over specific notes in the upper staff of each system. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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 thee,
the glow of life decays,
yet angel hosts adore thee
and tremble as they gaze.

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

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