

THE CHRISTIAN YEAR - PASSIONTIDE

102

PASSION CHORALE. (7 6. 7 6. D.)

*Very slow and solemn* ♩ = 42.

*Melody by* H. L. HASSLER, 1564-1612.

*Adapted and harmonized by* J. S. BACH.

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The first system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The second system also ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The third system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

*P. Gerhardt, 1607-76, based on Salve caput cruentatum  
( ascribed to St. Bernard ). Tr. Y. H.*

○ Haupt voll Blut und Wunden.

**O** SACRED head, sore wounded,  
Defiled and put to scorn;  
O kingly head, surrounded  
With mocking crown of thorn:  
What sorrow mars thy grandeur?  
Can death thy bloom deflower?  
O countenance whose splendour  
The hosts of heaven adore.

- 2 Thy beauty, long-desirèd,  
Hath vanished from our sight;  
Thy power is all expirèd.  
And quenched the light of light.  
Ah me! for whom thou diest,  
Hide not so far thy grace:  
Show me, O Love most highest,  
The brightness of thy face.
- 3 \* I pray thee, Jesus, own me,  
Me, Shepherd good, for thine;  
Who to thy fold hast won me,  
And fed with truth divine.  
Me guilty, me refuse not,  
Incline thy face to me,  
This comfort that I lose not,  
On earth to comfort thee.
- 4 In thy most bitter passion  
My heart to share doth cry,  
With thee for my salvation  
Upon the Cross to die.  
Ah, keep my heart thus movèd  
To stand thy Cross beneath,  
To mourn thee, well-belovèd,  
Yet thank thee for thy death.
5. \* My days are few, O fail not,  
With thine immortal power,  
To hold me that I quail not  
In death's most fearful hour:  
That I may fight befriended,  
And see in my last strife  
To me thine arms extended  
Upon the Cross of life.

