O SACRED HEAD, SORE WOUNDED

PASSION CHORAL. 7.6.7.6.D: Hans Leo Hassler, 1601; harm. J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Text: O HAUPT VOLL BLUT UND WUNDEN, Paulus Gerhardt, 1656, English Tr. Robert Bridges, 1899
German from Salve caput cruentaratum; St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153).

1. O Sacred Head, sore wounded,
2. Thy beauty, long desired,
3. In thy most bitter passion.
4. My days are few, O fail not,

De - filed and put to scorn;
Hath vanished from our sight;
My heart to share doth cry,
With thine immortal power,

O king - ly head, sur - round - ed
Thy power is all ex - pi - red,
With thee for thy sal - va - tion
To hold me that I quail not

With mock - ing crown of thorn:
And quenched the light of light.
Up on the cross to die.
In death's most fearful hour:

With

O

Hath

My

With

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Ah, me! for whom thou distantest,
Ah, keep my heart thus moved
That I may fight befriended,

What sorrow mars thy grandeur?

Can death thy bloom deflower?
Hide not so far thy grace;
To stand thy cross beneath,
And see in my last strife

O countenance whose splendor
Show me, O Love most highest,
To mourn thee, well beloved,
To me thine arms extended

The hosts of heav’n adore!
The brightness of thy face.
Yet thank thee for thy death.
Up on the Cross of Life.