

# O Sacred Head

from St Matthew Passion

J. S. Bach  
transcribed Gwyn Arch

*Adagio e sostenuto*

*mp*

Tenor I  
O sa-cred head, sore woun-ded With grief and pain weighed down. Thy  
this Thy bit-ter pass-ion Good shep-herd think of me With

Tenor II  
O sa-cred head, sore woun-ded With grief and pain weighed down. Thy  
this Thy bit-ter pass-ion Good shep-herd think of me With

Baritone  
O sa-cred head, sore woun-ded With grief and pain weighed down. Thy  
this Thy bit-ter pass-ion Good shep-herd think of me With

Bass  
O sa-cred head, sore woun-ded With grief and pain weighed down. Thy  
this Thy bit-ter pass-ion Good shep-herd think of me With

*Adagio e sostenuto*

*mp*

Piano/Organ\*  
[Musical accompaniment]

6 *poco cresc.*

king-ly head, sur-roun-ded With thorns, thine on-ly crown. Death's  
Thy most sweet com-pass-ion, Un-wor-thy though I be. Be-

king-ly head, sur-roun-ded With thorns, thine on-ly crown. Death's  
Thy most sweet com-pass-ion, Un-wor-thy though I be. Be-

king-ly head, sur-roun-ded With thorns, thine on-ly crown. Death's  
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king-ly head, sur-roun-ded With thorns, thine on-ly crown. Death's  
Thy most sweet com-pass-ion, Un-wor-thy though I be. Be-

*poco cresc.*

[Musical accompaniment]

\* It was Bach's intention that his chorales should be accompanied, the notes being almost entirely derived from the voice parts.

Please do not photocopy.  
It is both illegal and unfair.

10

pal - lid hue comes o'er Thee. The glow of life de - cays. Yet  
neath Thy cross a - bid - - ing For e - ver would I rest, In

pal - lid hue comes o'er Thee. The glow of life de - cays. Yet  
neath Thy cross a - bid - - ing For e - ver would I rest, In

pal - lid hue comes o'er Thee. The glow of life de - cays. Yet  
neath Thy cross a - bid - - ing For e - ver would I rest, In

14

*dim.* an - gel hosts a - dore Thee, And trem - ble as they gaze. In  
Thy dear love con - fid - - ing And with Thy pre - sence

*dim.* an - gel hosts a - dore Thee, And trem - ble as they gaze. In  
Thy dear love con - fid - - ing And with Thy pre - sence

*dim.* an - gel hosts a - dore Thee, And trem - ble as they gaze. In  
Thy dear love con - fid - - ing And with Thy pre - sence

*dim.*

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6 *poco cresc.*

king - ly head, sur - roun - ded With thorns, thine on - ly crown. Death's  
Thy most sweet com - pass - ion, Un - wor - thy though I be. Be -

*poco cresc.*

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*poco cresc.*