

St Matthew Passion Chorale melodies

based on Chorale 72, Wenn ich einmal sol scheiden

This list includes all of the chorales in the St Matthew Passione based on the chorale tune of No. 72, – Wenn ich einmal soll scheiden (*When once I must depart, do not depart from me*)

Context: Jesus tells his disciples that they will be annointed, and that when Jesus is is struck down, they will scatter.

Chorale: Jesus talks about the good that has come to him from God.

21

Key: E major

Er - ken - ne mich, mein Hü - ter, mein - Hir - te, nimm mich an,

Context: Jesus tells Peter that he will betray Jesus three times before the night is over. Peter denies it.

Chorale: Peter declares his loyalty.

23

Key: E \flat major

Ich will hier bei dir ste - hen: ver - ach - te mich doch nicht!

Context: Pilate asks Jesus if he is King of the Jews. Jesus will not say that it is so. Pilate warns him of the harshness of his fate.

Chorale: Jesus says that God will guide them all.

53

Key: D major

Be - fiehl du dei - ne We - ge und was dein Her - ze kränkt

Context: Jesus is taken to the jail, beaten, and ridiculed. A crown of thorns is placed upon his head.

Chorale: Lament for Jesus' suffering.

63

Key: F major

O Haupt voll Blut und Wun - den, voll Schmerz und vol - ler Hohn!

Context: Jesus suffers, ultimately dying on the cross.

Chorale: We identify with Jesus' death and appeal to him (or God) to be with us and shield us from fear and suffering.

Key: Begins in C major, modulating through several keys and ending in A minor (the relative major of C major). The final cadence is a half cadence in A minor, thus creating a very unsettled feeling.

72

Wenn ich ein - mal soll schei - den, so schei - de nicht von mir!
Wenn ich den Tod soll lei - den, so tritt du dann her - für!