Leader: 1 God, why have You rejected us forever?

Why does Your anger smolder against the sheep of Your pasture?

Response: **2 Remember Your congregation, which You purchased of old,**

**which You have redeemed to be the tribe of Your inheritance:**

**Mount Zion, in which You have lived.**

Leader: 3 Lift up Your feet to the perpetual ruins,

all the evil that the enemy has done in the sanctuary.

Response: **4 Your adversaries have roared in the middle of Your assembly.**

**They have set up their standards as signs.**

Leader: 5 They behaved like men wielding axes,

cutting through a thicket of trees.

Response: **6 Now they break all its carved work down with hatchet and hammers.**

Leader: 7 They have burned Your sanctuary to the ground.

They have profaned the dwelling place of Your Name.

Response: **8 They said in their heart, “We will crush them completely.”**

**They have burned up all the places in the land where God was worshiped.**

Leader: 9 We see no miraculous signs.

There is no longer any prophet,

neither is there among us anyone who knows how long.

Response: **10 How long, God, shall the adversary reproach?**

**Shall the enemy blaspheme Your name forever?**

Leader: 11 Why do You draw back Your hand, even Your right hand?

Take it from Your chest and consume them!

Response: **12 Yet God is my King of old,**

**working salvation throughout the earth.**

Leader: 13 You divided the sea by Your strength.

You broke the heads of the sea monsters in the waters.

Response: **14 You broke the heads of Leviathan in pieces.**

**You gave him as food to people and desert creatures.**

Leader: 15 You opened up spring and stream.

You dried up mighty rivers.

Response: **16 The day is Yours, the night is also Yours.**

**You have prepared the light and the sun.**

Leader: 17 You have set all the boundaries of the earth.

You have made summer and winter.

Response: **18 Remember this, that the enemy has mocked You, Yahweh.**

**Foolish people have blasphemed Your name.**

Leader: 19 Don’t deliver the soul of Your dove to wild beasts.

Don’t forget the life of Your poor forever.

Response: **20 Honor Your covenant,**

**for haunts of violence fill the dark places of the earth.**

Leader: 21 Don’t let the oppressed return ashamed.

Let the poor and needy praise Your name.

Response: 22 Arise, God! Plead Your own cause.

Remember how the foolish man mocks You all day.

Leader: 23 Don’t forget the voice of Your adversaries.

Response: **The tumult of those who rise up against You ascends continually.**