Leader: 1 Hear my prayer, Yahweh!

Let my cry come to You.

Response: **2 Don’t hide Your face from me in the day of my distress.**

**Turn Your ear to me.**

**Answer me quickly in the day when I call.**

Leader: 3 For my days consume away like smoke.

My bones are burned as a torch.

Response: **4 My heart is blighted like grass, and withered,**

**for I forget to eat my bread.**

Leader: 5 By reason of the voice of my groaning,

my bones stick to my skin.

Response: **6 I am like a pelican of the wilderness.**

**I have become as an owl of the waste places.**

Leader: 7 I watch, and have become like a sparrow that is alone on the housetop.

Response: **8 My enemies reproach me all day.**

**Those who are mad at me use my name as a curse.**

Leader: 9 For I have eaten ashes like bread,

and mixed my drink with tears,

Response: **10 because of Your indignation and Your wrath;**

**for You have taken me up and thrown me away.**

Leader: 11 My days are like a long shadow.

I have withered like grass.

Response: **12 But You, Yahweh, will remain forever;**

**Your renown endures to all generations.**

Leader: 13 You will arise and have mercy on Zion;

for it is time to have pity on her.

Yes, the set time has come.

Response: **14 For Your servants take pleasure in her stones,**

**and have pity on her dust.**

Leader: 15 So the nations will fear Yahweh’s name,

all the kings of the earth Your glory.

Response: **16 For Yahweh has built up Zion.**

**He has appeared in His glory.**

Leader: 17 He has responded to the prayer of the destitute,

and has not despised their prayer.

Response: **18 This will be written for the generation to come.**

**A people which will be created will praise Yah,**

Leader: 19 for He has looked down from the height of His sanctuary.

From heaven, Yahweh saw the earth,

Response: **20 to hear the groans of the prisoner,**

**to free those who are condemned to death,**

Leader: 21 that men may declare Yahweh’s name in Zion,

and His praise in Jerusalem,

Response: **22 when the peoples are gathered together,**

**the kingdoms, to serve Yahweh.**

Leader: 23 He weakened my strength along the course.

He shortened my days.

Response: **24 I said, “My God, don’t take me away in the middle of my days.**

**Your years are throughout all generations.**

Leader: 25 Of old, You laid the foundation of the earth.

The heavens are the work of your hands.

Response: **26 They will perish, but You will endure.**

**Yes, all of them will wear out like a garment.**

**You will change them like a cloak, and they will be changed.**

Leader: 27 But You are the same.

Your years will have no end.

Response: **28 The children of Your servants will continue.**

**Their offspring will be established before You.”**