אל חביבי אשר מזרחי God, My Beloved Asher Mizrahi של חביבי לאשר מזרחי 20th Century מאה 20 מאה 20 ירושלים-תוניס

God, my beloved, God, please אֵל, חֲבִיבִי, יָהּ, אָנָּא

Settle me in pleasantness בְּנָעִים הוֹשִׁיבֵנִי נָא

God, to my dwelling at the right time

יִרְאֶה וְיִגֶּלֶה כְבוֹדוֹ Will appear and reveal his glory

Those who hope for His mercy will say

"There is none but Him"

תְּרִיבוּן עַל מָה עָמָדִי Why do you fight with me?

לא תּוּכְלוּ עֲמד נֶגְדִּי You will not be able to stand before me

אַלי מָגֵן בַּעֲדִי My God is a shield around me

ַּבְעַת צָרָה אֵין בַּלְעָדוּ In troubled times there is none but Him

עֲדָתִי בְּנִיסָן נִגְאֲלוּ

My people were redeemed in Nisan עַמִים בַּפְנֵיהֶם נָפָלוּ

Nations fell before them רְעֵדוּ וְגִם נִבְהָלוּ

They shook and were frightened תַּמוּ, כָּלוּ

They were finished, destroyed מַיַּלְדּוּתִי אֲהַבְתָּנִי

You have loved me from my youth יוֹם וְלֵיל לֹא עֲזַבְתָּנִי

Day and night You have not left me עַתָּה לְמַפְרִיעַ שַׂמְתַּנִי

Now You have set me to distress בֵּין עַמִּים חוּסָה נָּא

Among the nations—Have mercy please

Translated by Abigail Denemark with advisory support from Dr. Jonathan Decter

Notes:

- 5. Psalms 147:11
- 7. See Exodus 17:2
- 9. Psalms 3:4
- 13. See Exodus 15:15
- 18. Piyut.org explains the last two lines as "You have set me to disturb the nations' rest", but if this is the case the request for mercy at the end is odd. I have left my translation ambiguous as to who is distressed to reflect this.