LORD, listen to my prayer



Text: Sing Psalms, © Psalmody Committee, Free Church of Scotland, 2003 Tune: John Ireland, 1879–1962, © John Ireland Trust

LORD, listen to my prayer

- 4 For ashes are my food; I weep incessantly because in your great wrath you have abandoned me. My days like evening shadows pass; I wither like the sun-dried grass.
- 5 But you, O LORD, are set forever on your throne; through each succeeding age endures your great renown. You will arise in mighty power; on Zion mercy you will shower.
- The set time now has come to bless Jerusalem.
 Her stones your saints hold dear; her dust is mourned by them.
 Nations will fear your name, O LORD; all kings on earth your praise record.
- 7 For God will yet appear in glorious might to reign; the LORD in grace will build Jerusalem again. The prayers of all the poor he'll heed; he will not spurn their cry of need.
- 8 Let this be written down to teach a future race, so people yet unborn may magnify his grace: that from his holy place above the LORD looked down in tender love.

- 9 From heaven he viewed the earth, observing all mankind, to hear the groans of those in prison cells confined, and to deliver from on high a multitude condemned to die.
- 10 In Zion will be praised the LORD's exalted name; his praises will be sung within Jerusalem, when peoples and their kingdoms throng to serve the LORD with cheerful song.
- 11 He took my strength away by his almighty power; he shortened grievously my life's allotted hour. I said, "O take me not away, my God, at noontide of my day.
- 12 "Your days and years go on through every age of man.The earth's foundation strong you laid when time began.The heavens came at your command, created by your mighty hand.
- 13 "The earth and heavens will fail, but you alone remain.

 Like garments they will age, while you on high will reign.

 Like clothing you will change them all; like clothes discarded they will fall.
- 14 "But you endure always; your years will never cease. Your servants' children too will know your reign of peace. Their offspring, their succeeding race, will ever stand before your face."