Refrain: Give judgement for me

O Lord my God, in you I take refuge; save me from all who pursue me, and deliver me,

Lest they rend me like a lion and tear me in pieces while there is no one to help me.

If I have done these things: if there is any wickedness in my hands,

If I have repaid my friend with evil, or plundered my enemy without a cause,

Then let my enemy pursue me and overtake me, trample my life to the ground, and lay my honour in the dust.

Rise up, O Lord, in your wrath; lift yourself up against the fury of my enemies.

Awaken, my God, the judgement that you have commanded.

Let the assembly of the peoples gather round you; be seated high above them: O Lord, judge the nations.

Give judgement for me
according to my righteousness, O Lord;
and according to the innocence that is in me.

9 Let the malice of the wicked come to an end,
but establish the righteous;
for you test the mind and heart, O righteous God. [R]

10 God is my shield that is over me;
he saves the true of heart.

11 God is a righteous judge;
he is provoked all day long.

12 If they will not repent, God will whet his sword;
he has bent his bow and made it ready.

13 He has prepared the weapons of death;
he makes his arrows shafts of fire. [R]

14 Behold those who are in labour with wickedness,
who conceive evil and give birth to lies.

15 They dig a pit and make it deep
and fall into the hole that they have made for others.

16 Their mischief rebounds on their own head;
their violence falls on their own scalp.

17 I will give thanks to the Lord for his righteousness,
and I will make music to the name of the Lord Most High.
Refrain: Give judgement for me according to my righteousness, O Lord.

Lord, your justice turns evil on itself: move us to examine our hearts and repent of all duplicity; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Judge and righteous Saviour.

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