I Waited for the Lord My God



6. In order none can reckon them
to thee: if them declare,
And speak of them I would, they more
than can be numbered are.

7. No sacrifice nor offering
didst thou at all desire;
Mine ears thou bored: sin-off'ring thou
and burnt didst not require:

8. Then to the Lord these were my words,
I come, behold and see;
Within the volume of the book
it written is of me:

9. To do thy will I take delight,
O thou my God that art;
Yea, that most holy law of thine
I have within my heart.

10. Within the congregation great
I righteousness did preach:
Lo, thou dost know, O Lord, that I
refrained not my speech.

11. I never did within my heart
conceal thy righteousness;
I thy salvation have declared,
and shown thy faithfulness:

12. Thy kindness, which most loving is,
concealed have not I,
Nor from the congregation great
have hid thy verity.

13. Thy tender mercies, Lord, from me
O do thou not restrain;
Thy loving-kindness, and thy truth,
let them me still maintain.

14. For ills past reck'ning compass me,
and mine iniquities
Such hold upon me taken have,
I cannot lift mine eyes:

15. They more than hairs are on mine head,
thence is my heart dismayed.
Be pleased, Lord, to rescue me;
Lord, hasten to mine aid.

16. Shamed and confounded be they all
that seek my soul to kill;
Yea, let them backward driven be,
and shamed, that wish me ill.

17. For a reward of this their shame
confounded let them be,
That in this manner scoffing say,
Aha, aha! to me.

18. In thee let all be glad, and joy,
who seeking thee abide;
Who thy salvation love, say still,
The Lord be magnified.

19. I'm poor and needy, yet the Lord
of me a care doth take:
Thou art my help and saviour,
my God, no tarrying make.

Scottish Psalter, 1650

ARLINGTON C.M.
Thomas Augustine Arne, 1762