

**Waterford Congregational Church**

**Advent 4; Dec 19, 2021.**

**Hymns honoring the women of Christmas**

**MY HEART SINGS OUT**

1 My heart sings out with joyful praise  
to God who raises me,  
Who came to me when I was low  
and changed my destiny.  
The Holy One, the Living God,  
is always full of grace  
To those who seek their Maker's will  
in every time and place.

3 The promise made in ages past  
at last has come to be,  
for God has come in power to save,  
to set all people free.  
Remembering those who wait to see  
salvation's dawning day,  
Our Savior comes to all who weep  
to wipe their tears away.

*Words by Ruth Duck, 1985; Music: Swedish folk song.*

**IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER**

1 In the bleak midwinter  
Frosty wind made moan  
Earth stood hard as iron  
Water like a stone  
Snow had fallen  
Snow on snow on snow  
In the bleak midwinter  
Long, long ago

2 Angels and Arc Angels  
May have traveled there  
Cherubim and Seraphim  
Thronged the air  
But only his Mother  
In her maiden bliss  
Worshiped the beloved  
With a kiss

3 What can I give him?  
Poor as I am  
If I were a shepherd  
I would give a lamb  
If I were a wise man  
I would do my part  
But what I can I give him  
Give him my heart  
(Give him my heart)

*Words by Christina Rossetti, 1872; Music by Gustav Holst, 1906*

**NOW BLESS THE GOD OF ISRAEL**

1 Now bless the God of Israel who comes in love and power,  
who raises from the royal house deliverance in this hour.  
Through holy prophets God has sworn to free us from alarm,  
to save us from the heavy hand of all who wish us harm.

2 Remembering the covenant, God rescues us from fear,  
that we might serve in holiness and peace from year to year.  
And you, my child, shall go before, to preach, to prophesy,  
that all may know the tender love, the grace of God most high.

3 In tender mercy, God will send the dayspring from on high,  
our rising sun, the light of life for those who sit and sigh.  
God comes to guide our way to peace, that death shall reign no  
more.  
Sing praises to the Holy One, O worship and adore.

*Words by Ruth Duck, 1983; Music: traditional English melody,  
harmonized by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906*

**George Wiese, c.1868 Mason & Hamlin reed organ.**