

Dear Friends,

As I write this, the rain is gently falling and reminding us of God's renewing and regeneration of the earth. It also reminds me that God showers us with blessings daily, so that we too may be renewed by his love and grace.

Each day the news brings a spark of hope that we may soon be able to meet face to face, and I look forward to being able to arrange to come and visit you once more, when the restrictions are lifted.



Some years ago, I watched part of a classical concert on TV. The pianist was a well-known musician, and he not only played brilliantly, but conducted the orchestra with a look, a nod of his head, or a wave of his hand. What talent, what years of study and practice and what joy he has given to many over the years. There are many times when we might feel we have no

talent worth speaking of and yet, each one of us has gifts. We may not be on a concert platform or in front of a crowd, but God has given each of us the gift of love, compassion and of caring for others. Each day as you go out into the community or your neighbourhood, you are bringing joy and comfort to all you meet. These gifts, like the musician's gift, need to be used daily to do the greatest good.

The following music clip is one that touched my heart some years ago. It follows on from the verse in John 13:34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

I've included the words as well and as you listen, use it as a prayer. May we be given the love and compassion for one another.

May the love of God surround us, the example of Jesus be our guide, and may the Spirit of God inspire and fill us with compassion. Amen

With love and prayers,

Lyn

The pianist/conductor in the picture is: "Christian Zacharias (Piano, Conductor, Arranger)" - not the one I watched on TV a long time ago.

Not too far from here

(Written by Steve Silver)

Somebody's down to their last dime
Somebody's running out of time
Not too far from here
Somebody's got nowhere else to go
Somebody needs a little hope
Not too far from here
And I may not know their name
But I'm praying just the same
That You'll use me, Lord
To wipe away the tears
'Cause somebody's crying
Not too far from here

Somebody's troubled and confused
Somebody's got nothing left to lose
Not too far from here
Somebody's forgotten how to trust
And somebody's dying for love
Not too far from here

It may be a stranger's face
But I'm praying for Your grace
To move in me
And take away the fear
'Cause somebody's hurting
Not too far from here

Help me, Lord
Not to turn away from pain
Help me not to rest
While those around me weep
Give me Your strength and compassion
When somebody finds
The road of life too steep

Somebody's troubled and confused
Somebody's got nothing left to lose
Not too far from here
Somebody's forgotten how to trust
And somebody's dying for love
Not too far from here

Now I'm letting down my guard
And I'm opening my heart
Help me speak Your love
To ev'ry needful ear
Someone is waiting
Not too far from here
Someone is waiting
Not too far from here