Here is Ruth's Reflection for Sunday, if you downloaded the original it may have been a bit small I have enlarged it as an attachment.

Keep your eyes on the horizon we are getting there.

So pleased that people have booked their appointment for the vaccine.

Blessings

Roma x

## Reflection for Sunday 24 January 2021

"Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit" (John 15: 1-17)

This week marks the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-25 January) and this year the material from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland has been prepared by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland. The theme is based on John 15: 1-17 and expresses the life they live – a life of prayer, life in community and welcoming of guests.

Their day begins with the words "Pray and work that God may reign". In these difficult times, these words are never more important.

It is difficult this week for us to show our unity by gathering together as churches of different denominations to pray and worship as one. But in one sense, this pandemic has given us something much more powerful. For, because we cannot gather, we are a stronger force in our individual homes praying for our churches; our communities; all God's people everywhere. Because we cannot rush around getting from one meeting to another, or one job to another, we have time to stop or pause and spend time with God. We have the opportunity to not only speak to God but to listen also. To take time in the presence of God to be renewed; refreshed; revitalised to face the day ahead.

Prayer should not be an afterthought, or something we do because we can no longer do anything else. It should be the foundation of everything we do. It is one of the unifying factors of our faith – that we can pray with and for each other and is the most powerful action we have.

So whether we pray on our knees at the bedside; or on a walk in the countryside; or a chat at the kitchen sink let us remember to pray – Always

Keep Safe

RevRuth

## Time to Pray (Anonymous)

I got up early one morning and rushed right into the day; I had so much to accomplish that I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me, and heavier came each task. "Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered. He answered, "You didn't ask."

I wanted to see joy and beauty, but the day toiled on, grey and bleak; I wondered why God didn't show me. He said, "But you didn't seek."

I tried to come into God's presence; I used all my keys at the lock. God gently and lovingly chided, "My child, you didn't knock."

I woke up early this morning, and paused before entering the day; I had so much to accomplish that I had to take time to pray.