

Gathering

Follow the school's normal gathering routines, using words of liturgy which are familiar to students and adults

or

Light a candle and offer the following prayer: 'The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you'. Response: *and also with you*. (To support pupil understanding of the Christian belief in God as Trinity here, why not light a single candle which has three wicks, lighting them in turn as each 'person' is acknowledged?)

Remind the school community of previous collective worships on 'Journeying through life' and Jacob's experience this week.

Engagement

[Collate a few items that someone might have when preparing for a journey – water, mobile phone, map, compass etc.]

Invite pupils up to guess what a variety of items are, for instance through 'Taboo' or guessing what the object is whilst handling blindfolded. Ask pupils what they think the link between these objects might be? [Answer: all used on a journey]

Life is often seen as a journey (show images on PowerPoint slides). Life is often seen as full of choices, decisions, even temptations.

I wonder how often we stop to think about the journey of our life so far?

Explain about monks and the use of labyrinths:

Labyrinths were (and are) used by Christian monks. They are walked slowly, offering a bounded space for personal reflection and spiritual pilgrimage.

Whereas a maze has a different entry and exit point, a labyrinth has the entry and exit point the same. A labyrinth is used as a space to exit the world, reflect on spiritual questions, and enter the world once again.

Watch **Week 2 – Pupil video** (<https://youtu.be/L3RR-UYiT2Y>).

Response

Explain that we are going to now do a version of this reflection, using our hands.

- Invite pupils to look at their open palms and look at their 'palm lines'. Everybody's palm lines are different – no two are the same. Invite pupils to think about how unique they are.
- Invite pupils to very slowly trace along the palm lines on their hand using their index finger on the other.
- Whenever they reach a point where their palm line changes direction, or they move to another line, invite pupils to consider what makes them unique, special, and different from anyone else.

- After a moment, ask pupils to repeat. This time, where they meet a change of direction or 'line', invite pupils to consider a positive choice they could make today to help somebody else in their life journey.

Show the verse: "You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy." (Psalm 16:11). I wonder how this verse makes you feel?

Prayer

Jacob went on a journey through life. It was when Jacob stopped and rested, that he had his vision. In this rest in the 'busy-ness' of life, he discovered more about himself, life and God.

Lord, as we leave this place, help us to find time to rest and think about our life's journeys. Show us the path of life, and help us to support others as we journey together.

Amen

Sending

Recap the main messages for this collective worship, inviting pupils to consider their journeys through life over the rest of the week.