Jesus in the Wilderness

Lent and Easter 2021

Collective Worship Planning
At all times remember the following:

1. Collective worship is more than ‘just a statutory requirement,’ or ‘another thing I have to do.’ Worship has the potential to **set the tone for your whole day** and is a key driver for delivering messages of hope, courage and endurance in a challenging time.

2. Worship in a classroom space can be difficult. Invest in a **routine** which signifies that something different and special is about to happen. Create a focal point and consider seating arrangements carefully.

3. **Let the children lead.** Younger children always want to get involved and their responsibilities will be small in comparison with the capabilities of older children. Younger children can participate by leading the gathering, choosing artefacts for the focal point or reading a prayer standing at the front. Older children should be able to plan acts of worship from Bible stories or themes. Consider putting them all on a rota, allocating them stories and seeing what they put together!

4. There must be an **opportunity to worship God.** Worship is an attitude of the heart focused on God. In a school situation this will involve leading people to the threshold of worship by providing a setting where they may worship God if they so wish. As a class teacher you will be used to filling every moment, but do not be afraid to leave empty spaces and silence for children to meet and experience God should they want to.

5. It is important that we remember collective worship should be inclusive, inspirational and invitational no matter where it is held or who is leading.
   - **Inclusive:** something for children and teachers, of all faiths or of none to be able to join in with.
   - **Inspirational:** a time in the day to think about the big questions in our lives; an occasion that supports the school community’s spiritual development.
   - **Invitational:** an opportunity for those of any religious faith or none to focus and reflect on stimuli which allow the human spirit to respond with integrity.

6. The main elements of **G-E-R-S** (gather – engage – respond - send) should be present in each act of worship. This will help children to understand the Anglican structure of worship and it also really helps to have a structure to follow each day. You could use the Flippin’ Praise booklet to help you – see ‘Working on Worship 20 – Flippin Praise’ available at [https://www.cofesuffolk.org/schools/school-leaders/collective-worship/collective-worship-resources/](https://www.cofesuffolk.org/schools/school-leaders/collective-worship/collective-worship-resources/)

7. There should be a focus on **Biblical or Christian content** in each worship session. This content should be explored and made relevant to life today.

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**It is the task of collective worship to provide a setting in which the integrity of those present is not compromised but in which everyone finds something positive for themselves.**
Notes on using the collective worship plans

The following collective worship planning has been written to provide you with a starting point. The themes chosen to reflect this time of challenge for many children.

Each week is on one page in an easy to refer to format. It will not be needed by all teachers or schools but is available to those who would benefit from it. Each school will have a different structure to worship over the week and will have developed their own approaches to daily class-based worship based on this. The following structure is just a suggestion and one way of using this resource.

**Please note the structure of the week for this half term has been altered. This is to allow a week of Bible stories in the final week of term before the Easter break to look at some of the stories of Holy Week.**

Structure for the week:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Worship Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Collective worship linked to the current value or theme. These worships (or at least the engage) could be delivered by one person across the school by zoom or a pre-recorded video.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Collective worship with Christian content linked to the value/theme.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>On a Wednesday schools could develop their worship by working through a collection of Bible stories – one story at a time in order. This could be as simple as starting at the beginning of the Lion Storyteller Bible (used by Open the Book) and reading one story at a time, or starting at the New Testament stories. There are plenty of different Bible story collections to use and most teachers will have access to one. When stories are read – variations of the same questions could be asked: What did you like about the story? What do you think the story meant? What can we learn about the story? What will you remember about it? What does this story tell us about being human? What does it reveal about God? What if this happened today? And others of course!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td><strong>Pilgrim Pathway collective worship provided by the Archbishop of York Youth Trust. Please sign up to access this resource.</strong> <a href="https://www.archbishopofyorkyouthtrust.co.uk/projects/pilgrim-pathways">https://www.archbishopofyorkyouthtrust.co.uk/projects/pilgrim-pathways</a> Pilgrim Pathways will take pupils on a pilgrimage journey through Lent, looking at 6 different items that are important on a walking pilgrimage. Each week will focus on a different item beginning with a lamp and followed with a map, first aid kit, walking stick, shelter and finally food &amp; drink. Pilgrim Pathways will help pupils explore how these items symbolise ideas that can help them when facing challenges in their personal life journey. They are designed to encourage reflection and practical actions that can support pupils’ wellbeing and happiness. Videos are also provided on the platform if your school is unable to access YouTube.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Many schools will choose to end the week with a celebration of learning and behaviour. However, it is important that this celebration assembly still includes opportunities to worship and so every Friday suggestions are included.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Other notes:
- Feel free to use your own school’s gatherings and sendings rather than the suggested ones.
- Focus on the quality of the time rather than the quantity. Five minutes of really good input and time for reflection is better than 15mins of time filling. What is important is that you use the time you have wisely and that worship contributes to a child’s education as well as allowing an opportunity to learn about and meet with God. Print off the plans and put them somewhere easily accessible in your classroom to refer to.
- Find creative ways to make reference to your school’s unique context and vision.
- The sending should be developed to give children something to think about or put into action over the course of the day.
Lent: Jesus in the wilderness

**Lent** begins on the 17th February 2021. It is the period of 40 days before Easter and a special time of reflection and preparation for the celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus. It is one of the most important times of year for many Christians around the world.

During Lent, many Christians will remember the story from the Bible of when Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days and nights. The story tells us that Jesus was tested by the Devil three times towards the end of his 40 days. However, we have little detail as to what else Jesus did during his time in the wilderness. What might he have been doing for 40 days and 40 nights? British artist Stanley Spencer (1891-1959) sought to give some form to the Lent’s 40 days. He set himself the goal of creating 40 paintings, one for each day Jesus was in the wilderness. Unfortunately, the series was never finished. Instead, he completed eighteen drawings and eight paintings. Perhaps your class could paint their own and finish the series? Some of Spencer’s paintings are used as stimulus in collective worship this half term and show a different side to the Jesus that children might be familiar with. All images can be found at: [https://www.philipchircop.com/post/78978870751/christ-in-the-wilderness-stanley-spencer](https://www.philipchircop.com/post/78978870751/christ-in-the-wilderness-stanley-spencer)

Easter - Holy Week

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week – the last week of Lent leading up to Easter. On Palm Sunday Christians remember Jesus’ triumphant arrival in Jerusalem. As Holy Week draws to a close and Easter approaches, we have Holy Wednesday, commemorating Judas Iscariot’s intent to betray Jesus; Maundy Thursday, commemorating the Last Supper Jesus shared with his disciples, and Good Friday, the day on which Christians around the world remember Jesus’ crucifixion and burial. With Good Friday over, Christians look forward to Easter Sunday, the day on which Jesus rose from his tomb. Watch this 5 minute video from BibleProject: [The Crucifixion of Jesus: Luke 19-23 - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19zQ5Q0u958) and the resurrection of Jesus Luke 24 [The Resurrection of Jesus](https://www.bibleproject.org/) to understand the story fully from a Christian perspective.

The theme for this half term:

Central to this half term is the theme that Jesus went through it all, especially during his time in the wilderness. Jesus has felt all the struggles we feel. He has felt pain, hunger, exhaustion, anger, frustration, sadness and grief. All of us, regardless of our circumstances, have suffered to some degree during this pandemic. The Christian faith offers comfort in the possibility that during this time of suffering we are never alone. That God has not abandoned us. The Bible promises many times that God will never forsake us or leave us in our time of need. He is still walking by us, helping us get through any difficult time, understanding how we feel. Every negative feeling we have is one that God understands. How does God understand how we feel? Because of Jesus. Within the Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit there is an incredible awareness of what you and I go through because Jesus went through it all. This collective worship plan is written with this key message in mind and for children to encounter a very human Jesus they may not have met before.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>22.02</strong></td>
<td><strong>Theme</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gather</strong></td>
<td><strong>We prepare to meet with God</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jesus... faced many struggles in the wilderness</strong></td>
<td><strong>Light a candle and say:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Engage</strong></td>
<td><strong>We encounter Jesus and the stories of the Bible. We listen for God’s message to us.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Do you have a special job? Is it always easy to do, or are there distractions? As Jesus grew up he came to realise that God wanted him to do a special job. He was a carpenter, but he knew that he wouldn’t spend all his life making things. He looked around him and saw how many people didn’t know how much God loved them. He wanted to help them to live better. He knew he needed to think hard and pray hard, to listen to God. But he couldn’t do that at home. It was too busy. There were too many distractions. So he went to the wilderness. Show the image ‘rising from sleep in the morning.’ Allow time for the children to ponder the picture and share their ideas about how Jesus was feeling.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Leader - The Lord is here</strong></td>
<td><strong>Response: ... his love endures forever</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Respond</strong></td>
<td><strong>We respond to what we have heard and seen. We are given the opportunity to worship together.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Time to think, time to pray.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good</strong></td>
<td><strong>Response: ... and also with you</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Send</strong></td>
<td><strong>We are sent out to love and serve.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Time to think, time to pray.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Leader - May God grant to the world justice, truth and peace.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Leader - May God grant to the world justice, truth and peace.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Leader:** May we be with you.

**Response:** And also with you.

**Leader:** May we be with you.

**Response:** And also with you.

**Leader:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Response:** In the name of Christ. Amen.

**Leader:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Response:** In the name of Christ. Amen.

**Leader:** We go into the world to walk in God’s light, to rejoice in God’s love and to reflect God’s glory.

**Response:** Amen.

**Leader:** We go into the world to walk in God’s light, to rejoice in God’s love and to reflect God’s glory.

**Response:** Amen.

**Leader:** The Lord is good. We made us and we belong to him.

**Response:** Amen.

**Leader:** The Lord is good. We made us and we belong to him.

**Response:** Amen.
Week 2 – [link for daily calendar of kindness]

**Spring 2 01.03 Theme**

**Gather**

We prepare to meet with God

- **Leader:** Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good
- **Response:** ... his love endures forever

- **Leader:** The Lord is here
- **Response:** His spirit is with us

- **Leader:** Make us to know your ways, O Lord
- **Response:** – and teach us your paths

- **Leader:** - Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray. Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- **Response:** – Amen

**Engage**

We encounter Jesus and the stories of the Bible. We listen for God's message to us.

Show the [image]. Discuss what children see. Jesus is exhausted! He has been walking for many days. He longs to rest and looks hungry. Read Matthew 8:20

"Foxes have holes, and birds have nests but I have nowhere to lay my head." (paraphrased).

Do you ever feel like you just can't do it anymore? Do you get impatient? Jesus felt like this too. He knew he needed to stop and get some rest. We have to make sure we have time to look after ourselves too. Read Matthew 11:28.

**What did Jesus mean?**

What is Jesus doing here? He's not really doing anything – just staring at daisies! He looks like a child playing! For most of us, most of the time, life is very different from this. We do nothing but worry. What do you worry about? Jesus chose not to worry. He said no one can add a moment to their life by worrying. watch this video about what Jesus taught.

- **Leader:** – Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray. Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- **Response:** – Amen

**Respond**

We respond to what we have heard and seen. We are given the opportunity to worship together.

Time to think, time to pray. May God’s joy be in your heart and God’s love surround your living. Each day and night / and wherever you roam. / May you know God’s presence. In growing and learning, / in joy and sorrow, / in friendship, / in solitude, in beginnings and endings /may God keep you and bless you / all the days of your life. / (from The Blessing of Children in ‘The Pattern of Our Days’ ed. Kathy Galloway)

Time to think, time to pray. Imagine this is God looking at you. How would this change how you feel about yourself? God gazes in wonder at his whole creation. God loves the daisies and God loves me. Invite children to quietly repeat this phrase. Offer a prayer from common worship: God our deliverer, As you led our ancestors through the wilderness, So lead us through the wilderness of this world, that we may be saved by Christ forever. Amen

Time to think, time to pray. Lord, you are our hope and strength, Staying with us in trouble, Walking with us in danger, And comforting us in our sadness. Keep us always mindful of your love That we may be strong and courageous In all that we think and speak and do, Knowing that you are our closest and most loyal friend. (taken from Pocket Prayers for Children by Christopher Herbert)

Time to think, time to pray. Creator God, who made the world and all that is in it, guide us on our journey with you with peace and love. Jesus came to show us the Way, the Truth and the Life. Help us to follow His path. Show us who to serve and how to help them. Amen.

**Send**

We are sent out to love and serve

Leader - Go in peace, Response- We go in peace

Leader - Go in joy
Response- We go in joy

Leader - Go in love
Response- We go in love Amen

Leader - May God grant to the world justice, truth and peace.
Response- and make our school a place of love. Amen

Leader- Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Response - In the name of Christ. Amen

Leader - We go into the world to walk in God’s light, to rejoice in God’s love and to reflect God’s glory.
Response – Amen

Leader - May the light of Christ shine in all our hearts
Response – Amen
Week 3 - link for daily calendar of kindness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring 2 08.03 Theme</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gather We prepare to meet with God</td>
<td>Jesus felt... angry</td>
<td>Jesus felt... sadness</td>
<td>Jesus felt.. tested</td>
<td>Pilgrim Pathways 3 Click here to sign up for ppt</td>
<td>Leader - The Lord is good Response- He made us and we belong to him</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good Response: ... his love endures forever</td>
<td>Light a candle and say: Leader - The Lord is here Response- His spirit is with us</td>
<td>Hold up a Bible and say: Leader – Make us to know your ways, O Lord Response – and teach us your paths</td>
<td>Leader - Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray. Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Response - Amen</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engage We encounter Jesus and the stories of the Bible. We listen for God's message to us.</td>
<td>What is the emotion Jesus is showing in this image? What should we do if we think something is wrong? And it makes us angry? Why shouldn't we do? In this Jesus Made image – why is he so angry? Tell the story. During holy week, Jesus went into the temple. When he got there, he got very upset because people were using the temple as a marketplace, selling all sorts of animals and exchanging money. Jesus told the market traders that the temple was a place of prayer and he overturned the tables and threw them out of the temple. Over the next few days Jesus continued to teach both his disciples and the crowds who came to listen to him. He also said people needed to turn away from the bad things they were doing and turn back to God. Jesus was angry, not for selfish reasons, but because he saw others being treated unfairly and that the holy place, the temple in Jerusalem, was being used in a way that brought dishonour to God.</td>
<td>What makes you feel sad? Jesus felt sadness just like we do. The Bible tells us he cried at least two times. When one of Jesus’ closest friends Lazarus, died, Jesus wept. However, Jesus was able to perform a miracle and bring Lazarus back from the dead. Jesus performed other miracles too. Read Mark 3:1-5 Why do you think Jesus was sad and angry? Some people thought he shouldn't be performing miracles on the Sabbath – the day of rest. He was angry because of their hard hearts.</td>
<td>Going on a journey can be a great transforming experience, but it can also be difficult. It can be physically tough and sometimes even difficult mentally and emotionally. The third item to help us on our journey is a first aid kit. Read Psalm 28 - Praise be to the Lord, for He has heard my cry for mercy. The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and He helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise Him. Click here for video</td>
<td>We gather together to celebrate our gifts and talents which are given to us from God and which are precious to him. The Bible says: God did not love us or choose us for anything in us; it was simply because he loved us.’ Deuteronomy 7:7-8 He loves us – just because he does. It is not the same as he loves us because we are kind so if we are not kind he will not love us. He loves us... just because! Let's celebrate those children who have been successful this week by working hard and persevering.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respond We respond to what we have heard and seen. We are given the opportunity to worship together.</td>
<td>Time to think, time to pray. Perhaps Jesus is showing us that if we see something happening which we know is wrong it is ok to feel a bit angry. Ask children to clench their fists and to think of a time they have been angry and then to feel the release as they relax their hands. We have to choose to relax and deal with our anger in a healthy way. We can be angry but still in control. We pray that God our Father may bring healing, hope and help, through Christ our Lord. Amen.</td>
<td>Time to think, time to pray. Thanks be to you, our Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which you have given us, for all the pain and insults which you have borne for us. Most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother, may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day.</td>
<td>Time to think, time to pray. From Barnabas in schools: I wonder if full stomachs are really the way to a change people's hearts? I wonder if a miracle jump would really change people? I wonder if crushing the opposition will really bring peace and security to the world? Jesus was faced with some difficult tests. He could have taken the easy way out, but instead chose the tough path of being true to what he believed. Next time you are tempted, remember the example of Jesus.</td>
<td>Give children the opportunity to be still and thank God for all he has provided for us. A Celtic daily prayer: May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ go with you, wherever he may send you. May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you from the storm. May he bring you home rejoicing, at the wonders he has shown you. May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors. Amen.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Send We are sent out to love and serve.</td>
<td>Leader - Go in peace, Response- We go in peace Leader - Go in joy Response- We go in joy Leader- Go in love Response- We go in love Amen.</td>
<td>Leader - May God grant to the world justice, truth and peace. Response- and make our school a place of love.</td>
<td>Leader- Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Response - In the name of Christ. Amen.</td>
<td>Leader- We go into the world to walk in God's light, to rejoice in God's love and to reflect God's glory. Response – Amen</td>
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<td>Leader - The Lord is good Response- He made us and we belong to him</td>
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**Week 4**

**link** for daily calendar of kindness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Spring 2</strong> 15.03.21 Theme</th>
<th><strong>Monday</strong></th>
<th><strong>Tuesday</strong></th>
<th><strong>Wednesday</strong></th>
<th><strong>Thursday</strong></th>
<th><strong>Friday</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gather We prepare to meet with God</td>
<td>Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good</td>
<td>Pilgrim Pathways 4 <img src="link" alt="Click here to sign up for ppt" /></td>
<td>Pilgrim Pathways 5 <img src="link" alt="Click here to sign up for ppt" /></td>
<td>Pilgrim Pathways 6 <img src="link" alt="Click here to sign up for ppt" /></td>
<td>Celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response: ... his love endures forever</td>
<td>Light a candle and say: Leader - The Lord is here</td>
<td>Hold up a Bible and say: Leader – Make us to know your ways, O Lord</td>
<td>Leader - Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray. Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.</td>
<td>Leader - The Lord is good Response: He made us and we belong to him</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Engage</strong> We encounter Jesus and the stories of the Bible. We listen for God’s message to us.</td>
<td>watch this to recap so far.</td>
<td>Many people who go on a walking pilgrimage take a walking stick to help them stay stable. Watch the video on the next slide explaining how a walking stick can also be a symbol of all the wise people who have gone before us, who inspire us and help us continue on our journey.</td>
<td>When people take part in walking pilgrimages, they need to find shelter at night, some will camp, some will book places to stay along the way. Sometimes during a day’s walking, people will need to take shelter or find a place of safety. Our fifth item is shelter. Video <img src="link" alt="Click here!" /></td>
<td>The final item needed on our pilgrimage is food and nourishment. On walking pilgrimages, the food is often quite simple, traditional to the places pilgrims are visiting, but it helps to sustain them, so they have enough energy to walk. One of the important pilgrimages in the Bible took place in the last week of Jesus’ life. Matthew 26 <img src="link" alt="click me" /> Video - <img src="link" alt="click here!" /></td>
<td>We gather together to celebrate our gifts and talents which are given to us from God and which are precious to him. Have you ever been so excited about something you can’t stop thinking about it? Do you know what the Bible says? It says that God cannot stop thinking about you! He thinks about you because he loves you – wants to strengthen you and help you. Can you guess how many times he thinks about you? Psalm 139 says ‘How precious are your thoughts about me O God. I can’t even count them. They outnumber the grains of sand.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Respond</strong> We respond to what we have heard and seen. We are given the opportunity to worship together.</td>
<td>Read poem and allow time to think quietly: Who is this Jesus? Who can he be? And what was the reason he came? At Christmas we hear of a stable, a birth And call to mind his name. Who is this Jesus? Who can he be? And what was the reason he came? At Easter we hear how he died and then rose And call to mind his name. But what of the rest... of the land that he loved Of the things that he spoke and the people he knew? If we fill in the outline with colour and care Will the real Jesus come into view? Who is this Jesus? Who can he be? And what was the reason he came? Let’s reflect on his story, his words and his deeds, And call to mind his name. - Sue Aldridge</td>
<td>Time to think, time to pray. Who from the past or present is like a walking stick in your life? Who keeps you stable? Who inspires you and supports you on your journey? Jesus, friend and saviour, be with us in the storms of life. Encourage us to step out of our comfort zone. Help us to be open to new things and to grow in confidence. Help us to see ourselves as you see us, full of potential for good. Amen.</td>
<td>Time to think, time to pray. Loving Lord, you stayed close to the Father in prayer. Help us to stay close to your ways. Thank you for inspiring people today and in history. Place in our path people who are wise helpers. Show us how we can inspire and support others each day. Amen.</td>
<td>Give children the opportunity to be still and thank God for all he has provided for us. A Celtic daily prayer: May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ go with you, wherever he may send you, May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you from the storm. May he bring you home rejoicing, at the wonders he has shown you. May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors. Amen.</td>
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<td><strong>Send</strong> We are sent out to love and serve</td>
<td>Time to think, time to pray. Loving Lord, you stayed close to the Father in prayer. Help us to stay close to your ways. Thank you for inspiring people today and in history. Place in our path people who are wise helpers. Show us how we can inspire and support others each day. Amen.</td>
<td>Video - Watch the video</td>
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<td>Leader - May the light of Christ shine in all our hearts Response – Amen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2 22.03 Theme</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Friday</td>
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</table>
| **Gather** | **Leader**: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good  
**Response**: ... his love endures forever | Light a candle and say:  
**Leader**: - The Lord is here  
**Response**: - His spirit is with us | Hold up a Bible and say:  
**Leader** – Make us to know your ways,  
O Lord  
**Response** – and teach us your paths | **Leader** - Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray. Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Response** - Amen | **Leader** - The Lord is raised from the dead  
**Response** - He made us good  
**Leader** - We belong to him |
| **Engage** | How would you greet a special visitor? Two thousand years ago, the people of Jerusalem were expecting a special visitor; listen to this account of his arrival. Think about how the people prepared, what they shouted and what they saw.  
Watch [The Story of Easter (The Triumphal Entry)](link)  
Read Matthew 21:1-11 if time | Watch the video  
As they were all sitting together, Jesus told the disciples that he would be killed and that one of them sitting at the table would betray him. Explain how Jesus dipped a piece of bread and passed it to the man who would betray him. His name was Judas Iscariot. Jesus then said that he would be with them for only a little while longer. He said to his disciples, ‘I give you a new command: love each other. You must love each other as I have loved you. All people will know you are my followers if you love each other.’  
| What sort of decisions do we make every day? Some decisions are easy, others are hard. What do you think was the hardest decision you have ever had to make?  
Judas was one of Jesus’ disciples. He made a dreadful decision when he betrayed Jesus. Judas came with the soldiers and an angry crowd to the same garden. When he saw Jesus, standing with the other disciples he walked over to him and greeted him with a kiss. This was the sign to arrest Jesus and the soldiers came forward to seize him. Jesus spoke to them, “Am I a violent rebel or criminal? Why did you bring swords and clubs to arrest me? I will come with you.” And the soldiers took him away. | | |
| **Respond** | Print off a Bible Chat mat which accompanies this Bible story!  
[Jesus-the-King.pdf](link) | Let us pause for a while and think about what happened on that night. Imagine how Jesus must have felt telling his special friends, the disciples, he would be leaving them soon.  
Prayer - Jesus you have taught us how much you love us and to love you, ourselves and others. We thank you that we are able to remember you today. Amen | Think about all the decisions you have made today so far. Perhaps you have even had to decide how to behave in a particular situation, choosing between what is right and what is wrong. How well did you decide?  
Let us pray: Father God, be with us in every decision we make, so that we may do what is right and good. Help us especially when we must make difficult choices, perhaps decisions which could affect our lives and others. Help us to do what is right. Amen | | |
| **Send** | **Leader** - Go in peace,  
**Response** - We go in peace | **Leader** - May God grant to the world justice, truth and peace.  
**Response** - and make our school a place of love.  
**Leader** - Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Response** - In the name of Christ.  
**Leader** - We go into the world to walk in God’s light, to rejoice in God’s love and to reflect God’s glory.  
**Response** - Amen. | | |  
**Leader** - May the light of Christ shine in all our hearts  
**Response** - Amen. |