**Act of Worship**

**JOURNEYS**

**Year 3**

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**“God is with us on our journey”**

Gathering

together

**Focal Point:** Class calendar

Liturgical calendar

 Photographs of places of pilgrimage

 Bible open at Psalms

Reader/Leader

We have been looking at all the journeys we make in our lives and we’ve been

reflecting upon life, the whole of our lives, as a long journey. As we start our liturgy let us gather **In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit Amen.**

As we gather we sing… e.g. “The Journey of Life” or “I Give My Hands” or a Gathering hymn

Reader

The idea of life as a journey for the people of God is repeated over and over again in the Bible. The Bible has many stories of journeys in both the Old and New Testaments. The Jewish people in Jesus’ time journeyed to the Temple in Jerusalem to celebrate important feasts. When people make a special religious journey this is called a pilgrimage. The special song-prayers the Jewish people sang on the way to Jerusalem were called pilgrimage psalms.

Let’s listen to this reading from Psalm 122 which tells us how happy the pilgrims were when they reached the Temple.

Reader A reading from the Book of Psalms

The Word

of God

I was full of joy when they said to me,

Let us go up to God’s house.

And now we are standing

inside the gates of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is a great city, the city of peace.

The people of Israel come here to give thanks to God.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

Response

Leader Let us reflect in silence for a moment on the journeys we have made, including the journey of our life, and thank God for being with us each step of the way.

Let us say a litany in response to the word: The response is **God is with us**

Reader When we set out on a journey

**All God is with us**

Reader When the way ahead seems difficult

**All God is with us**

Reader Through times of quiet prayer

**All God is with us**

Reader Through times of celebrating together

**All God is with us**

Reader On our journey through life

**All God is with us**

{you might like to invite children to add their own prayers to the litany}

Leader

Going forth

Sit and think quietly about how we can invite God to be with us as we journey through our lives.

End the prayer time with an appropriate hymn/song e.g.:

“Walk with Me, O My God” (HON 582) or

“We will walk through the valley” (HON 602)

“Walk in the light” (HON 547)

**In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit Amen.**