Suggested prayer session: EYFS/KS1 and LKS2 follow script with appropriate pupil leadership (this could just be setting up a focal point through to reading/leading, etc.)

**Gather: -**

1. create atmosphere - in the initial sessions, agree what this should be like (dark/ seating in a circle/ tables moved back/ focal point with relevant items such as a prayer stone/candle to pass for private intentions); calm music to begin - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dfpOvM5OcuY&list=RDQMTvQjZDgX6yY&start_radio=1>
2. Sign of the cross

(Keep music playing quietly across the whole of the session)

**Listen -**

[EXTENSION FOR UKS2 - listen to the lyrics of this well-loved hymn often played at a funeral. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-eIQQayhpak>Think, why did the author choose these words from scripture? How would they be a comfort to someone who had just lost a loved one?]

Relevant scripture -

***A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes: “Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return to God who gave it.”***

**The word of the Lord, Response: thanks be to God**

Age appropriate - give time to reflect on what the words of the scripture mean. Allow some time to think and then tell them ' Just as we

(reflect) Let us take time to reflect on those who have left this world to be with God. We particularly think of those personal to us or those who lost their lives in times of war.

**Respond -**

Invite children to say their own prayer-out loud or in their head - for someone who has died and is now joined with God the Father.

Response to their prayers - either ***AMEN*** or ***'Keep this special person close to you, God our loving Father.'***

**Go Forth:**

1. Share with your parents that the month of November is a time when we remember loved ones who have died. Bring in any photos or names of people to be remembered for the prayer table/class book (teacher could invite via MM)
2. Share with parents that November is a time for remembrance and prayer together at home for the lost loved one
3. Remind pupils that they can write a remembrance plaque to be placed in the prayer garden (see MB or TD)

Prayer sessions...Either / OR

Fortnightly sessions in KS2 where week 1) class\* discussion to plan, 2) week 2 = prayer session

UKS2 might be able to assign a group to plan and the rest of the class can do private reading, as long as group of pupils swaps each time.

Other ideas - consider what heaven looks like - how is this depicted in art work? This could be the stimulus for listen and respond.