

# Epiphany On the Labyrinth, 2016



Wisdom Ways Center for Spirituality  
St. Paul, Minnesota (USA)  
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The journey of the Magi, like all significant quests, included stepping into the unknown, searching, danger, guidance, unexpected encounters, gifts given and received, and transformation.





## PILGRIM RITUAL

May our minds be clear  
(prayer hands at head)

Our hearts open  
(hands opening at heart level)

Our spirits free  
(little fingers linked like a  
butterfly  
on either side of the heart,  
then extending outward in a big  
circle)

As we journey home  
(hands over belly)

And serve in love  
(hands reaching out)

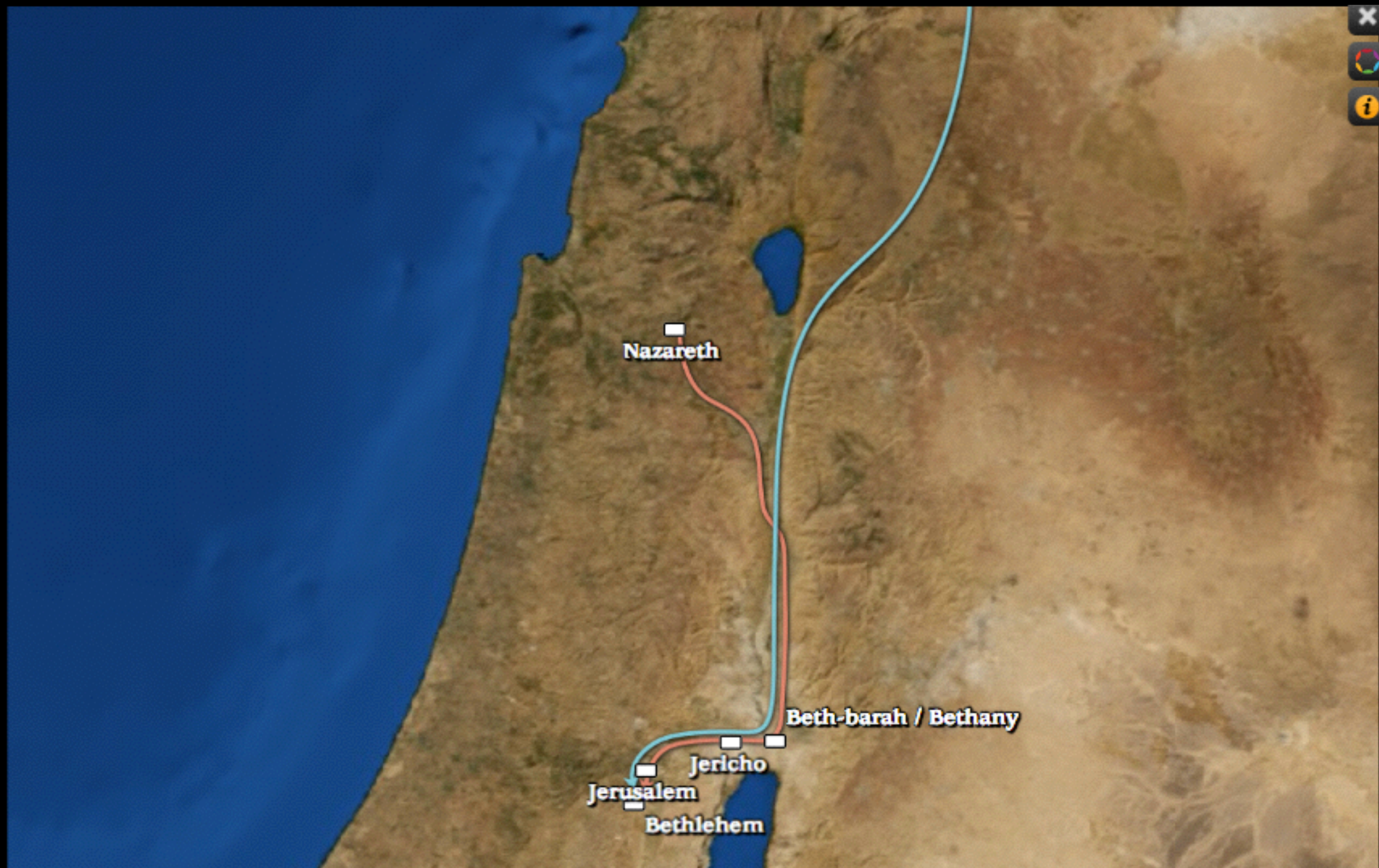














In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.”

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.”

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Matthew 2:1-12



**Please share your name.**



**What is one word, image, or short phrase from the story  
that spoke to you?**

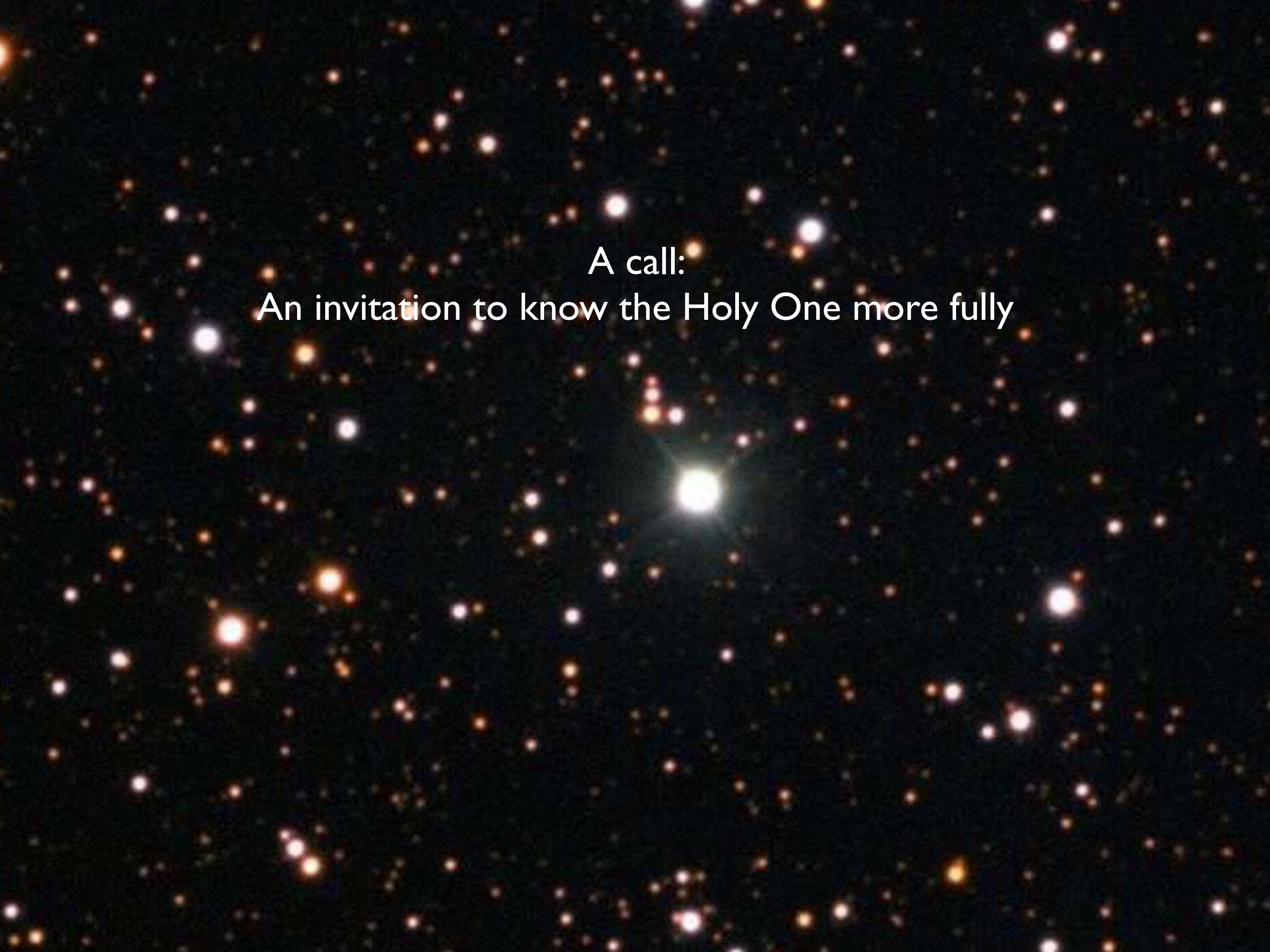


Three stages of pilgrimage and labyrinth walking  
that also appear in the Epiphany Story:



Journey away from home/towards the “goal” (the way in)  
Encounter at the site (center)  
Returning home (the way out)

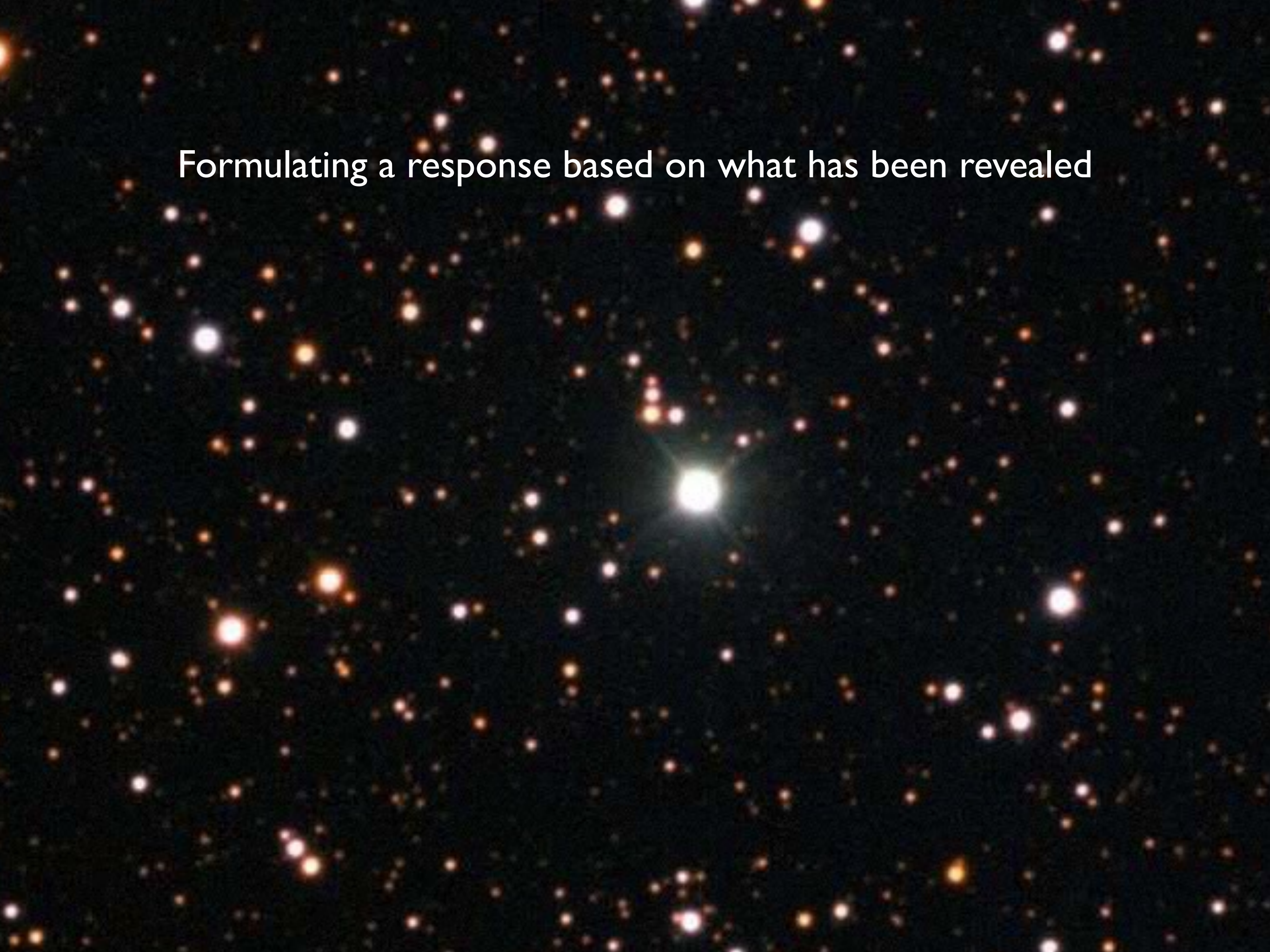


A deep space photograph of a starry night sky. The background is a dark, velvety black, densely populated with stars of various sizes and colors, ranging from bright white and yellow to faint orange and red. In the center of the frame, a single, exceptionally bright star stands out, emitting a prominent four-pointed diffraction pattern that glows with a pale greenish-white light. The overall effect is one of vast cosmic scale and serene beauty.


A call:  
An invitation to know the Holy One more fully



Formulating a response based on what has been revealed





The background of the image is a deep black space filled with numerous stars of varying sizes and colors, including white, yellow, and orange. A single, very bright star is positioned in the center of the frame, emitting a prominent four-pointed starburst or diffraction pattern. The text is centered horizontally and vertically over this background.

**Leaving the familiar:  
traversing the unknown  
while carrying a chosen gift**







**What call has The Divine revealed to me?**

**How do I want to respond?  
(What is needed?  
What gift will I take with me?)**

**Am I willing to leave where I am  
to seek The Holy One  
so that I may present my gift?**













Who has never walked a labyrinth?

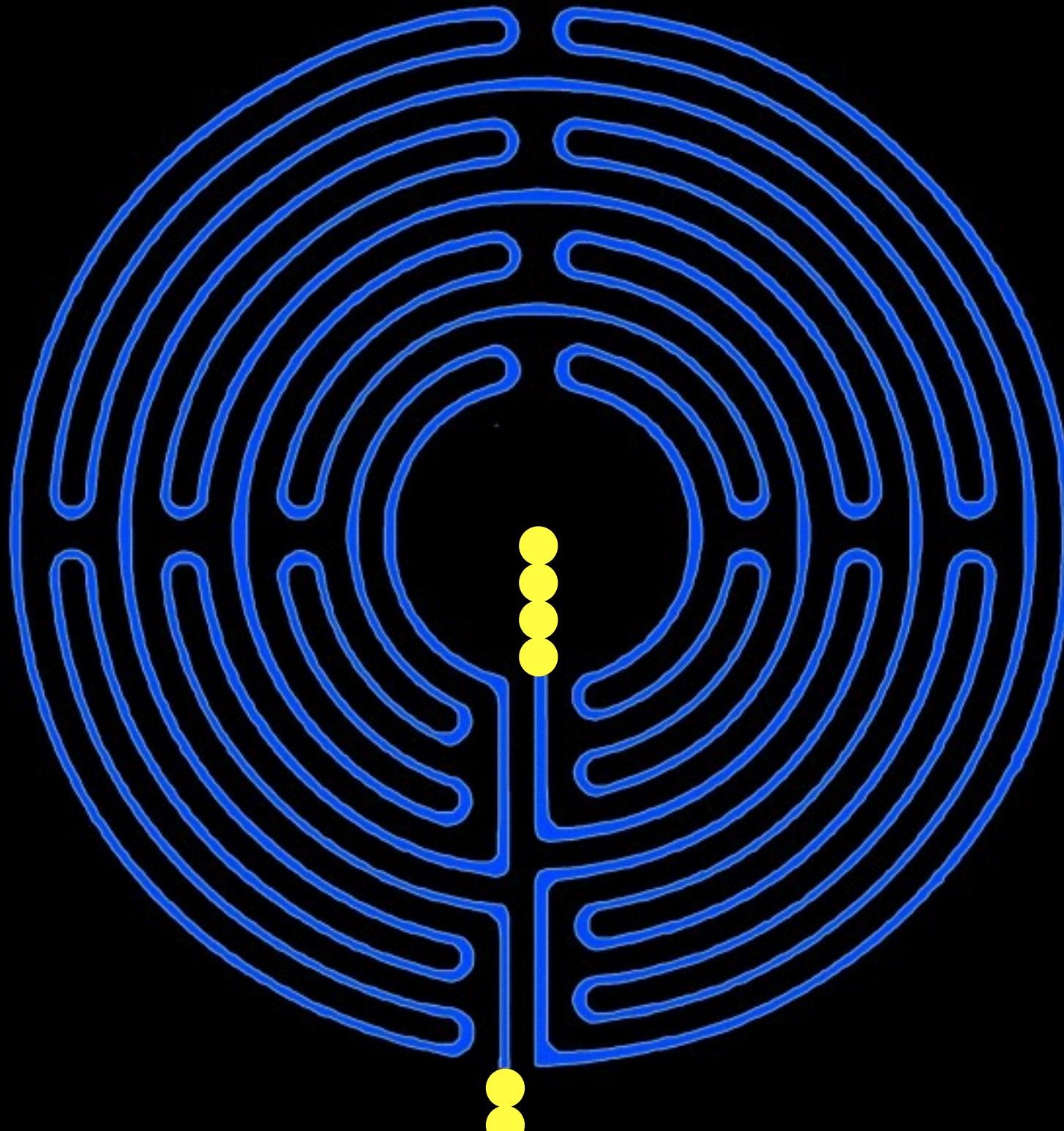
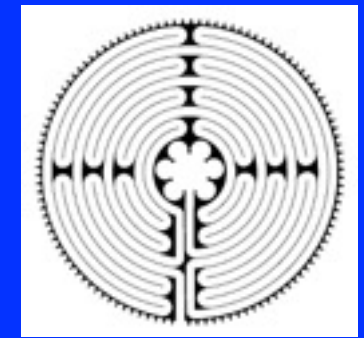
Who has walked a labyrinth 1-10 times?

Who has walked a labyrinth more often than that?





**Labyrinths are designs that consist of a single, winding path that begins at the periphery and leads to a central space. The way out is on the same path, but in the opposite direction.**





A labyrinth has one--and only one--pathway.

Mazes have many.

There are no tricks or dead ends in a labyrinth.

You can't get lost.

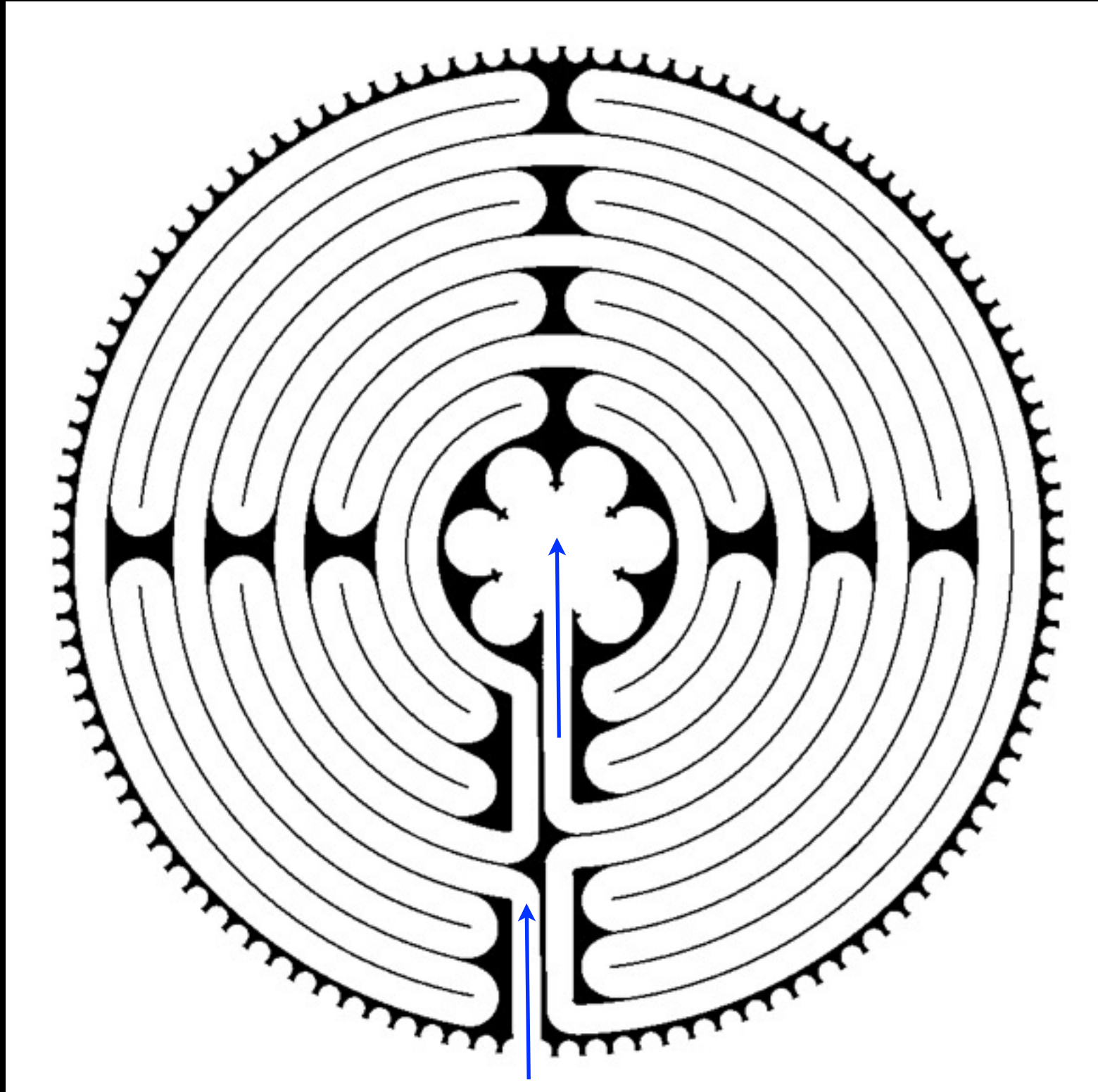
**Karen Wingaba Maze  
at a Buddhist Temple  
Yangon, Myanmar**



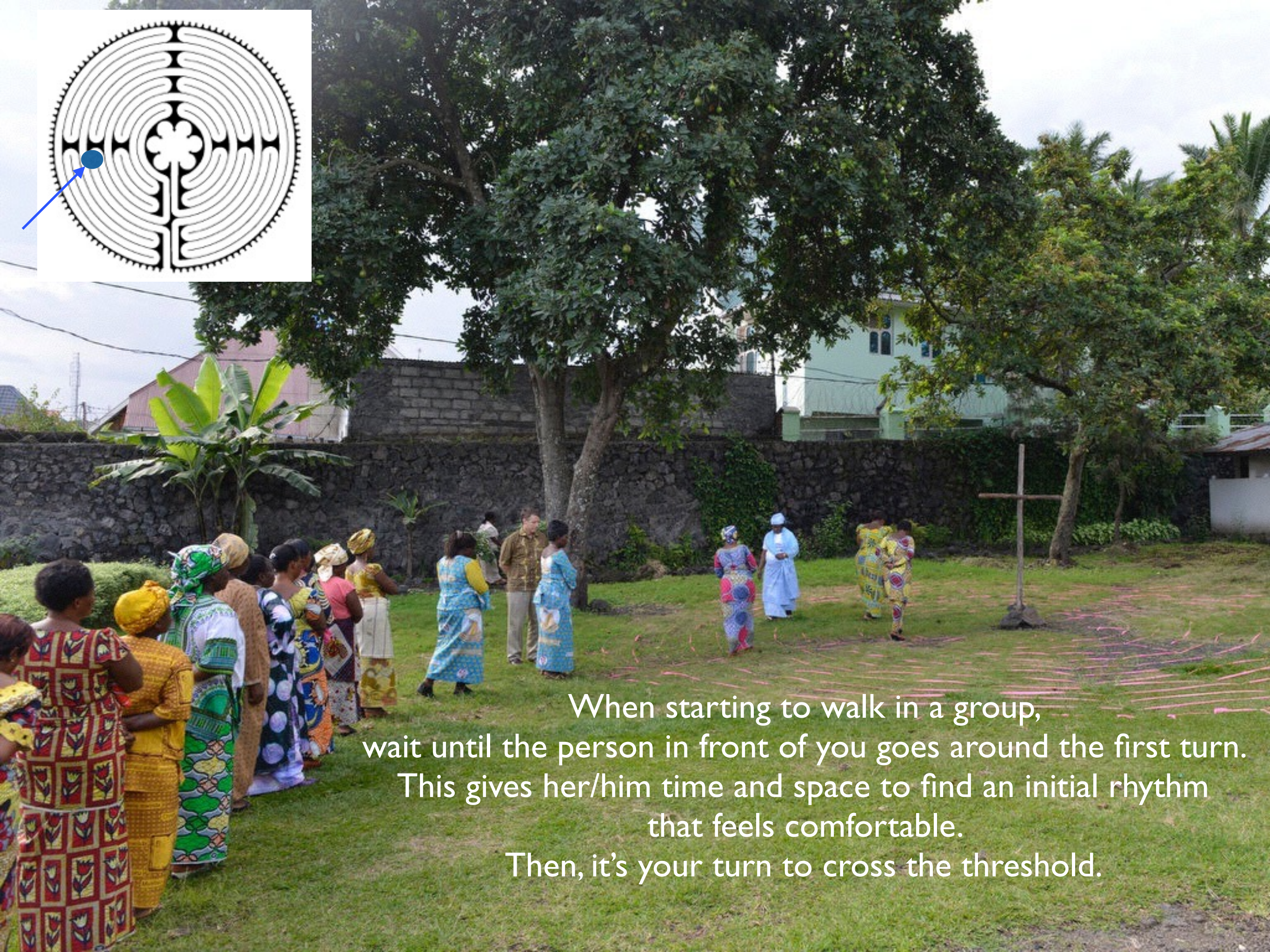
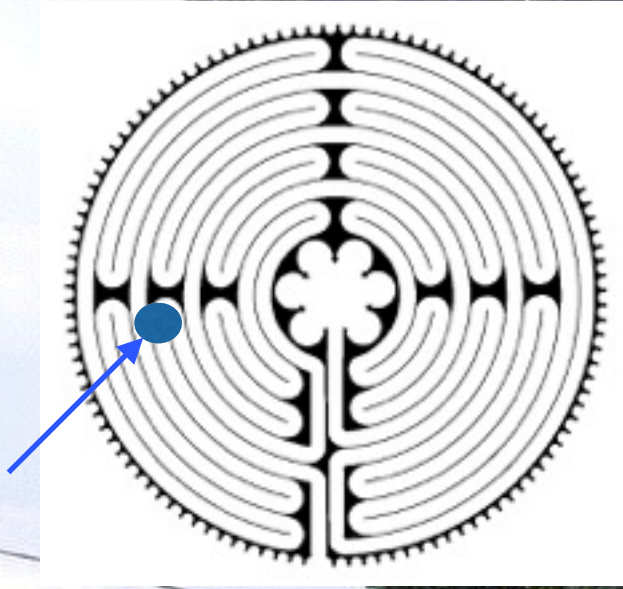




**You enter the labyrinth through its “gate” or “door.”  
Then, you follow its pathway to the center.**







When starting to walk in a group,  
wait until the person in front of you goes around the first turn.  
This gives her/him time and space to find an initial rhythm  
that feels comfortable.  
Then, it's your turn to cross the threshold.





**Pay special attention as you turn.**





**Walk at your own pace. It may change. Follow your internal rhythm.**



**When walking a labyrinth you can move around another person,  
or let someone “pass” you.**







**You can get turned around, but it's not a problem.**

**You will end up either in the center or at the doorway. Continue from there.**





Pay attention.  
What you  
experience has  
**EVERYTHING**  
to do with what  
you are  
considering and  
seeking.



**What call has The Divine revealed to me?**

**How do I want to respond?**

**(What is needed?**


**What gift will I take with me?)**

**Am I willing to leave where I am  
to seek The Holy One  
so that I may present my gift?**

**When you have answered these three questions,  
enter the labyrinth  
and walk towards what you have been called to find.  
If possible, do not enter the center (yet).**



We three kings of Orient are  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar.  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.



O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect Light.



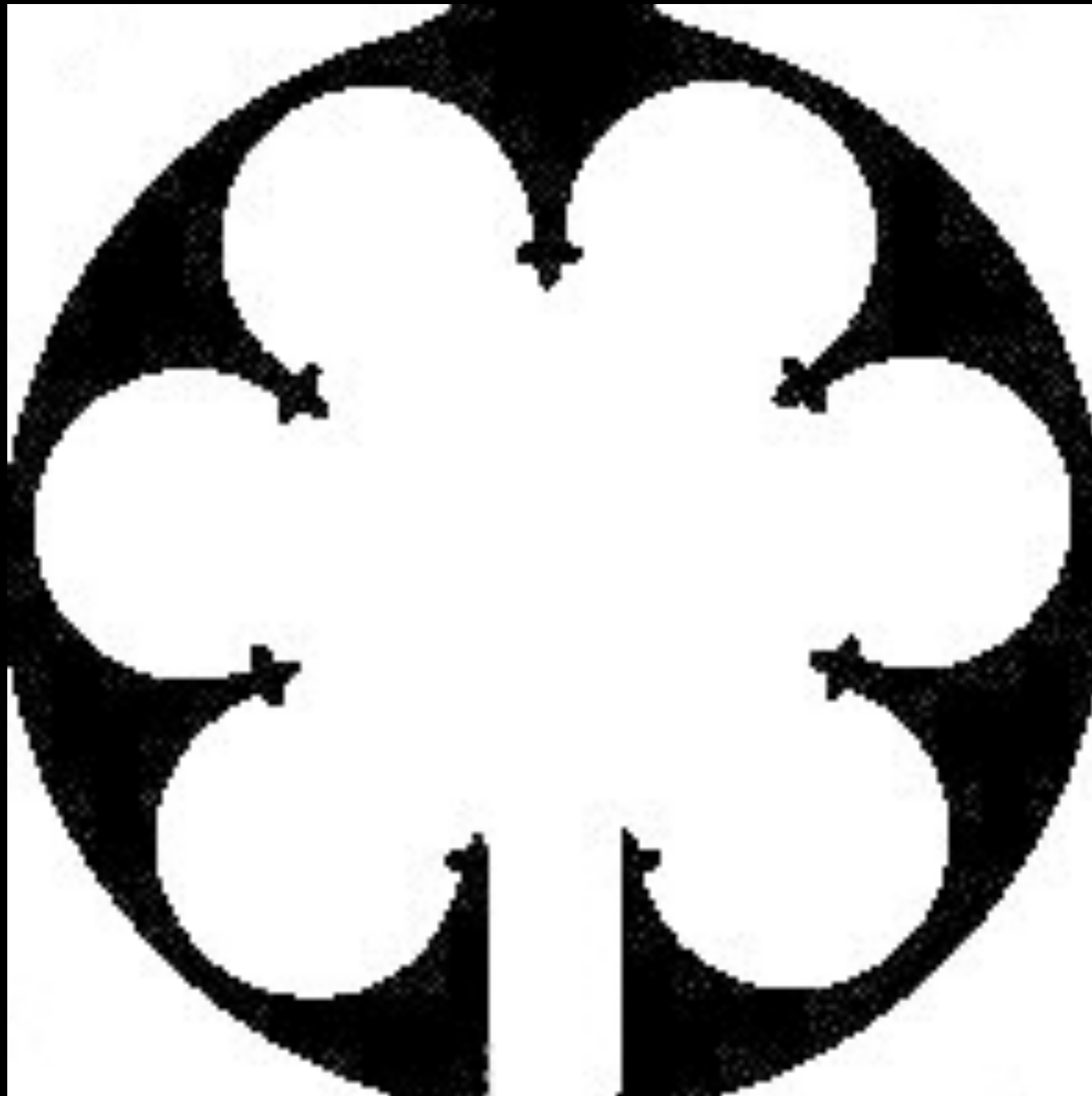
The background is a dark blue, starry night sky. In the center, there is a bright, glowing blue-white star. A thin, light blue crosshair is centered on this star, extending horizontally and vertically across the frame. The word "Epiphany" is written in white, sans-serif font, centered above the star.

# Epiphany

a **breakthrough, discovery, an enlightening realization** that allows a problem or situation to be understood from a new and deeper perspective.



## Phase 2: Encountering the Center

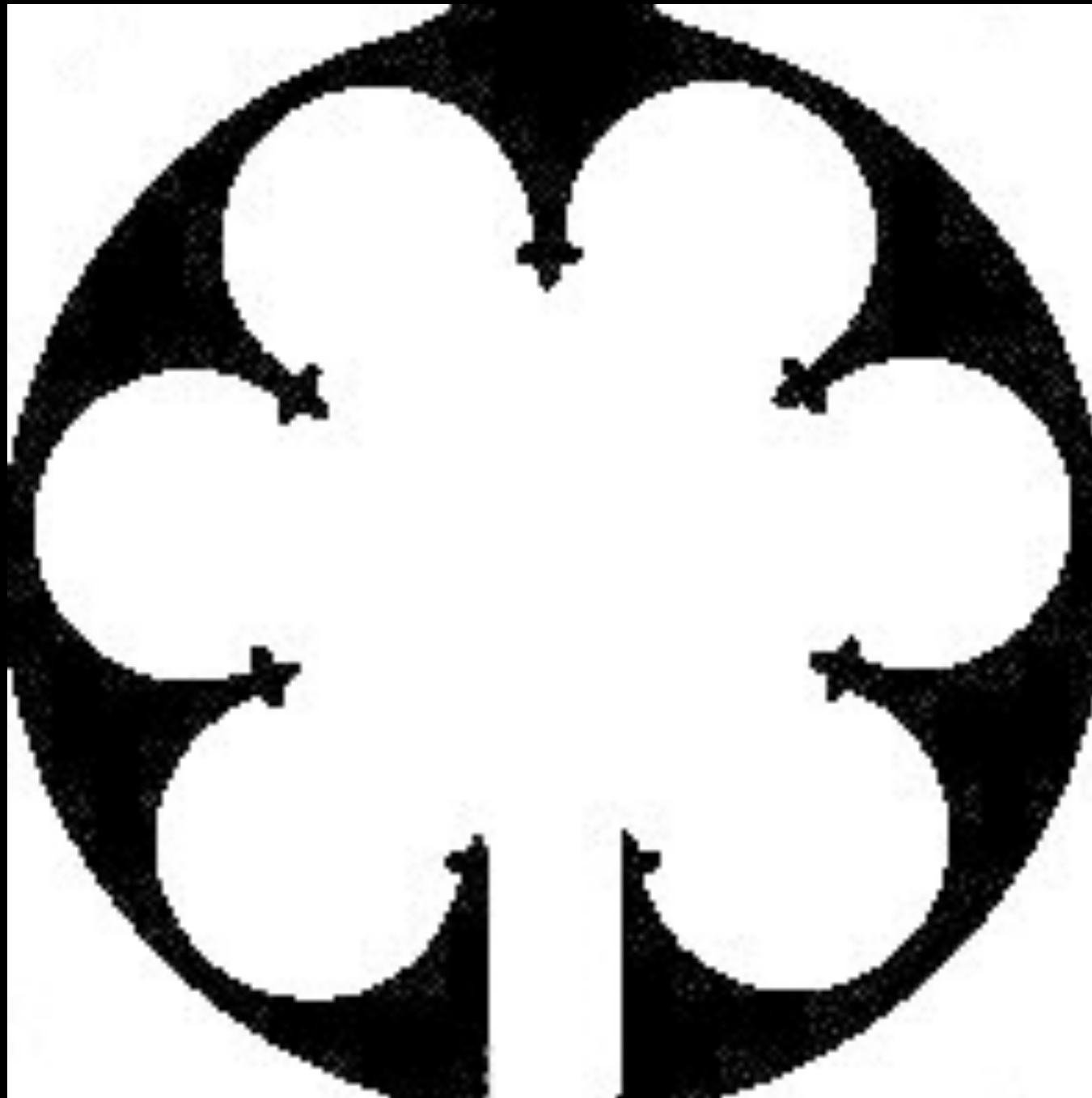








What is my experience of being directed to the One I have been seeking,  
of meeting the fulfillment of my heart's desire,  
and offering my gift?

































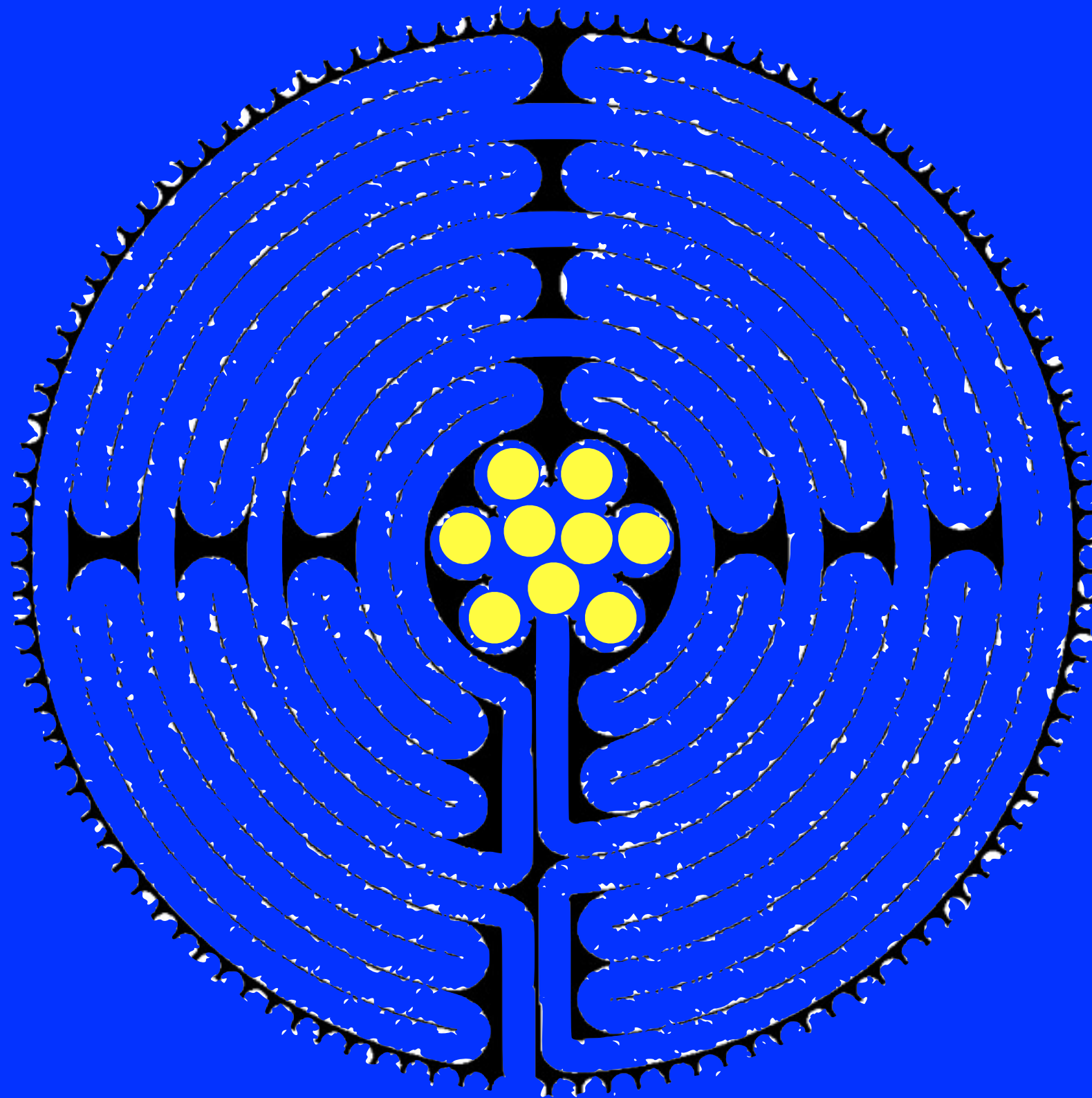








There is room in the center for many people.







Stay a while...












What is my experience of being directed to the One I have been seeking,  
of meeting the fulfillment of my heart's desire,  
and offering my gift?





We three kings of Orient are  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar.  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.



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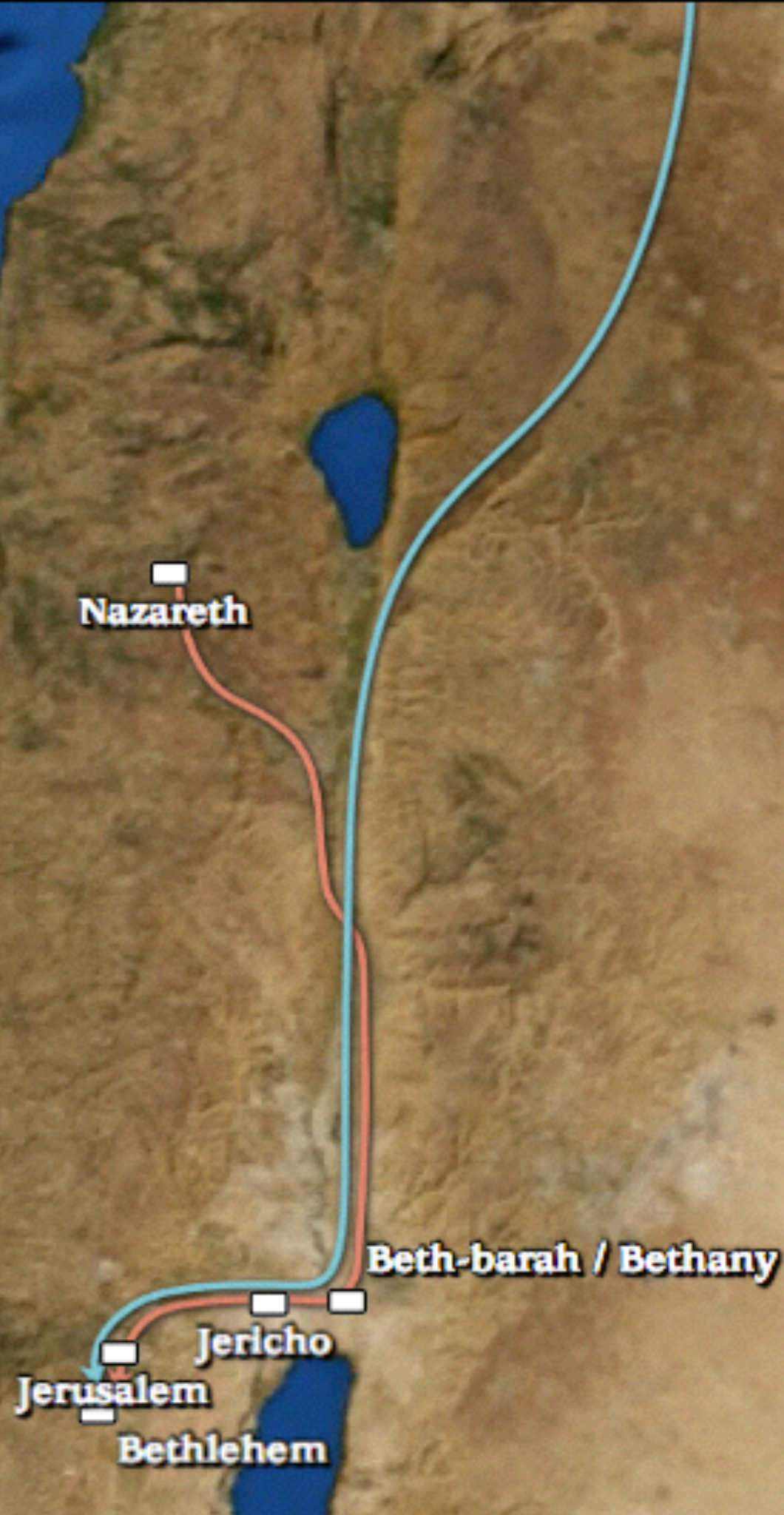
The background is a deep blue, starry night sky. In the center, there is a bright, glowing star with a soft, circular halo. A thin, light blue crosshair is centered on this star, extending horizontally and vertically across the frame. The word "Epiphany" is written in a white, sans-serif font, positioned just above the central star.

# Epiphany

a **breakthrough, discovery, an enlightening realization** that allows a problem or situation to be understood from a new and deeper perspective.



# Phase 3: Taking Another Way Home





What wisdom  
is being given  
to me?

What is the way  
Home  
from here?

What is my  
next step?









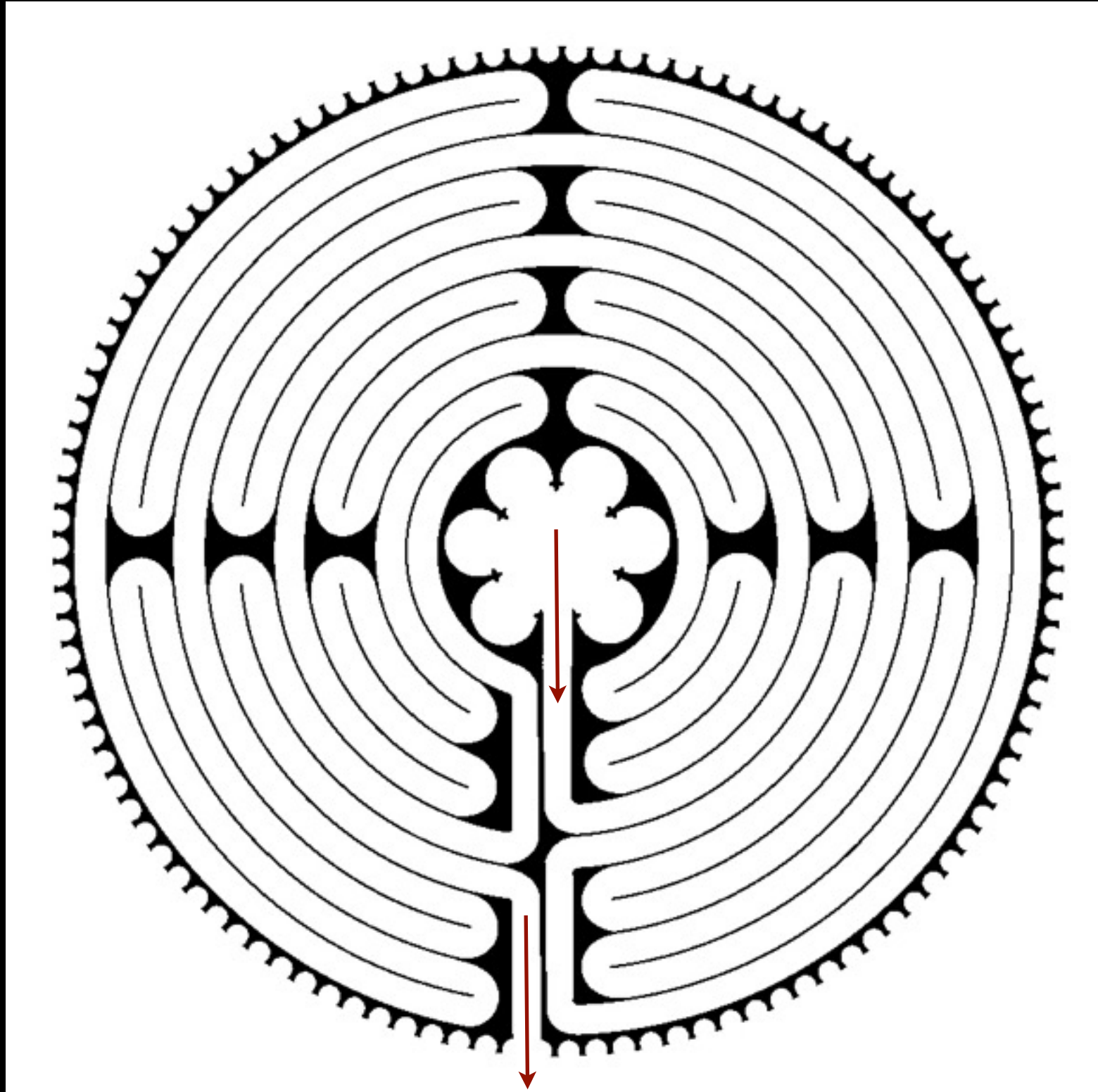








Taking another way home...



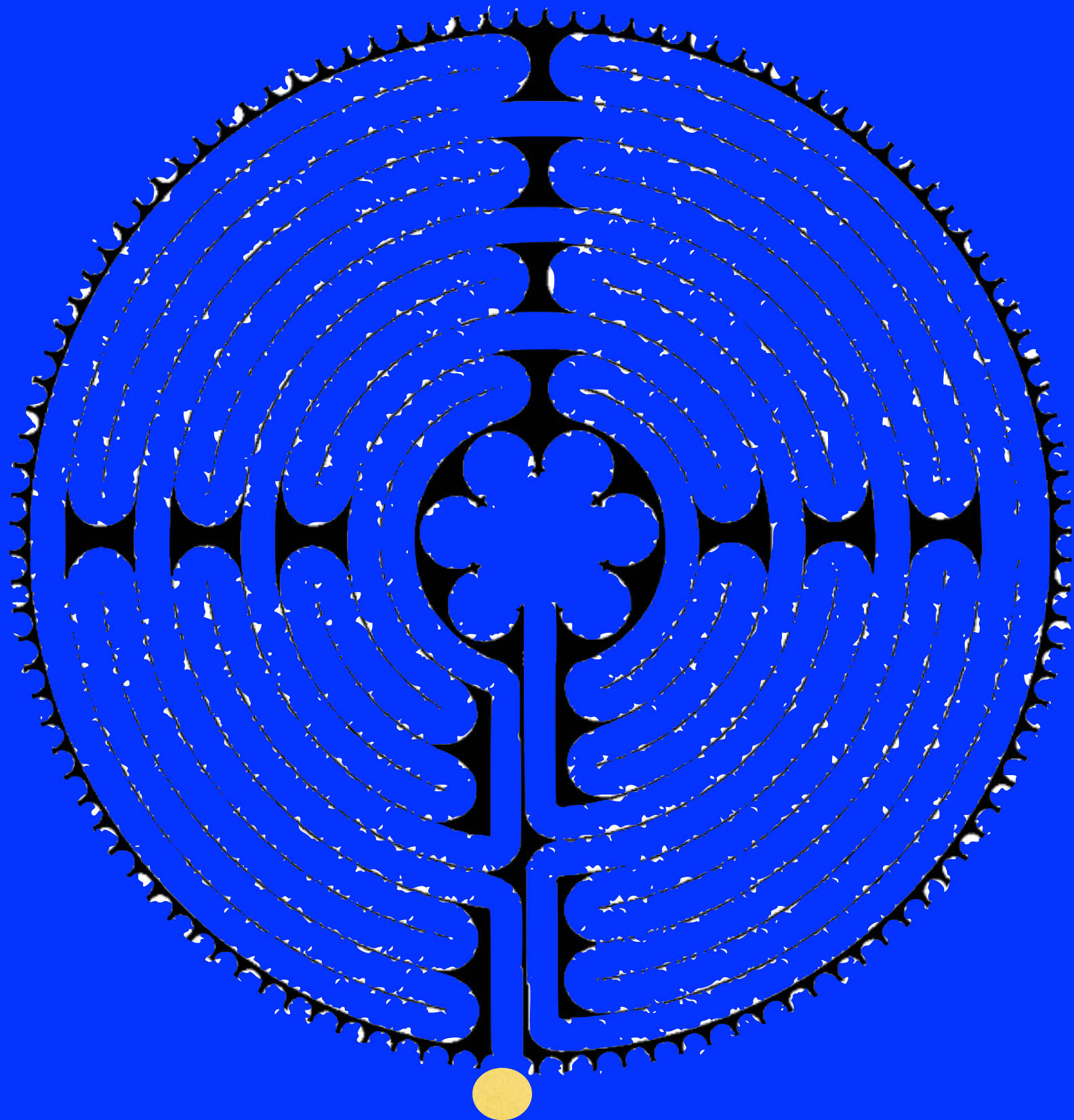


**Respect  
the threshold.**






**Take time for personal reflection.**





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Bearing gifts we traverse afar.  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.



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Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect Light.



What do I want to remember?







## PILGRIM RITUAL

May our minds be clear  
(prayer hands at head)

Our hearts open  
(hands opening at heart level)

Our spirits free  
(little fingers linked like a  
butterfly  
on either side of the heart,  
then extending outward in a big  
circle)

As we journey home  
(hands over belly)

And serve in love  
(hands reaching out)



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Websites:

[www.jillgeoffrion.com](http://www.jillgeoffrion.com) labyrinth resources

[www.praywithjillatchartres.com](http://www.praywithjillatchartres.com) Chartres Cathedral related

Photo prayer blog:

[praywithjillgeoffrion.wordpress.com](http://praywithjillgeoffrion.wordpress.com)

