Lab Exercise 8- Creating and Managing a ReplicaSet in Kubernetes

Objective:

A ReplicaSet in Kubernetes ensures a specified number of Pod replicas are running at any given time. This exercise will guide you through creating a ReplicaSet to maintain the desired state of your application.

- Understand the syntax and structure of a Kubernetes ReplicaSet definition file (YAML).
- Learn how to create and manage a ReplicaSet to ensure application availability.
- Understand how a ReplicaSet helps in scaling applications and maintaining desired states.

Prerequisites

- Kubernetes Cluster: Have a running Kubernetes cluster (locally using Minikube or kind, or a cloud-based service).
- kubectl: Install and configure kubectl to interact with your Kubernetes cluster.
- Basic Knowledge of YAML: Familiarity with YAML format will be helpful for understanding Kubernetes resource definitions.

Step-by-Step Guide

Step 1: Understanding ReplicaSet

A ReplicaSet ensures a specified number of Pod replicas are running at any given time. If a Pod crashes or is deleted, the ReplicaSet creates a new one to meet the defined number of replicas. This helps maintain application availability and ensures that your application can handle increased load by distributing traffic among multiple Pods.

Step 2: Create a ReplicaSet

We'll define a ReplicaSet to maintain three replicas of a simple Nginx web server Pod. Create a YAML file named nginx-replicaset.yaml with the following content:

```
# Specifies the API version used.
apiVersion: apps/v1
                     # The type of resource being defined; here, it's a ReplicaSet.
kind: ReplicaSet
metadata:
name: nginx-replicaset # The name of the ReplicaSet.
spec:
                  # The desired number of Pod replicas.
replicas: 3
 selector:
 matchLabels:
                     # Criteria to identify Pods managed by this ReplicaSet.
   app: nginx
                   # The label that should match Pods.
 template:
                  # The Pod template for creating new Pods.
  metadata:
   labels:
    app: nginx
                   # Labels applied to Pods created by this ReplicaSet.
  spec:
   containers:
   - name: nginx
                     # Name of the container within the Pod.
    image: nginx:latest # Docker image to use for the container.
    ports:
    - container Port: 80 # The port the container exposes.
```

Explanation:

- apiVersion: Defines the API version (apps/v1) used for the ReplicaSet resource.
- kind: Specifies that this resource is a ReplicaSet.
- metadata: Contains metadata about the ReplicaSet, including name.
 - o name: The unique name for the ReplicaSet.
- $\bullet \quad$ spec: Provides the specification for the Replica Set.
 - \circ replicas: Defines the desired number of Pod replicas.
 - o selector: Criteria for selecting Pods managed by this ReplicaSet.
 - matchLabels: Labels that Pods must have to be managed by this ReplicaSet.
 - o template: Defines the Pod template used for creating new Pods.
 - metadata: Contains metadata for the Pods, including labels.
 - labels: Labels applied to Pods created by this ReplicaSet.
 - o spec: Specification for the Pods.

- containers: Lists the containers that will run in the Pod.
 - name: The unique name of the container within the Pod.
 - image: The Docker image used for the container.
 - ports: Ports exposed by the container.

Step 3: Apply the YAML to Create the ReplicaSet

Use the kubectl apply command to create the ReplicaSet based on the YAML file.

kubectl apply -f nginx-replicaset.yaml

```
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>kubectl apply -f nginx-replicaset.yaml
replicaset.apps/nginx-replicaset created
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>
```

Verify the ReplicaSet is running and maintaining the desired number of replicas:

kubectl get replicaset

```
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>kubectl get replicaset
NAME DESIRED CURRENT READY AGE
nginx-replicaset 3 3 0 69s

C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>
```

This command lists all ReplicaSets in the current namespace.

To check the Pods created by the ReplicaSet:

kubectl get pods -l app=nginx

```
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>kubectl get pods -l app=nginx
NAME
                          READY
                                  STATUS
                                             RESTARTS
                                                        AGE
                          1/1
nginx-replicaset-jpvnd
                                  Running
                                                        102s
nginx-replicaset-vll5g
                          1/1
                                  Running
                                             0
                                                        102s
nginx-replicaset-x494l
                          1/1
                                  Running
                                                        102s
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>
```

This command lists all Pods with the label app=nginx.

Step 4: Managing the ReplicaSet

1. Scaling the ReplicaSet

You can scale the number of replicas managed by the ReplicaSet using the kubectl scale command.

```
kubectl scale --replicas=5 replicaset/nginx-replicaset
```

```
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>kubectl scale --replicas=5 replicaset/nginx-replicaset replicaset.apps/nginx-replicaset scaled
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>
```

This command scales the ReplicaSet to maintain 5 replicas. Verify the scaling operation:

```
kubectl get pods -l app=nginx
```

```
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>kubectl get pods -l app=nginx
NAME
                          READY
                                  STATUS
                                            RESTARTS
                                                        AGE
                          1/1
nginx-replicaset-9lkzl
                                  Running
                                                        28s
                                            0
                          1/1
                                  Running
nginx-replicaset-jpvnd
                                            0
                                                        3m22s
                          1/1
nginx-replicaset-pl6jz
                                  Runnina
                                            0
                                                        28s
nginx-replicaset-vll5g
                          1/1
                                  Running
                                            0
                                                        3m22s
nginx-replicaset-x494l
                                  Running
                                                        3m22s
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>
```

You should see that the number of Pods has increased to 5.

2. Updating the ReplicaSet

If you need to update the Pod template (e.g., to use a different Docker image version), modify the YAML file and apply it again. For instance, change the image to a specific version of Nginx:

spec:
template:
spec:
containers:
- name: nginx
image: nginx:1.19.3 # Change to a specific version

```
! nginx-replicaset.yaml
     apiVersion: apps/v1
     kind: ReplicaSet
                               # The type of resource being defined; here, it's a
       name: nginx-replicaset # The name of the ReplicaSet.
         matchLabels:
                               # The label that should match Pods.
          app: nginx
                               # The Pod template for creating new Pods.
         app: nginx
         spec:
           containers:
             image: nginx:1.19.3 # Docker image to use for the container.
             ports:
             - containerPort: 80 # The port the container exposes.
```

Apply the changes:

```
kubectl apply -f nginx-replicaset.yaml
```

```
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>kubectl apply -f nginx-replicaset.yaml
replicaset.apps/nginx-replicaset configured
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>
```

Check the status to ensure the Pods are updated:

kubectl get pods -l app=nginx

```
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>kubectl get pods -l app=nginx
                         READY
                                 STATUS
                                            RESTARTS
                         1/1
nginx-replicaset-jpvnd
                                 Running
                                                       5m43s
                                            0
nginx-replicaset-vll5g
                         1/1
                                 Running
                                            0
                                                       5m43s
nginx-replicaset-x494l
                         1/1
                                 Running
                                                       5m43s
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>
```

Note: Updating a ReplicaSet doesn't automatically replace existing Pods with new ones. In practice, you often create a new ReplicaSet or Deployment for updates.

3. Deleting the ReplicaSet

To clean up the ReplicaSet and its Pods, use the kubectl delete command:

```
kubectl delete -f nginx-replicaset.yaml
```

```
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>kubectl delete -f nginx-replicaset.yaml replicaset.apps "nginx-replicaset" deleted
C:\Users\Vibhav Khaneja\OneDrive\Desktop\K8S>
```

This command deletes the ReplicaSet and all the Pods managed by it.