



Why?

A photograph of a church interior with rows of wooden pews. The pews have red upholstered seats. The background is softly blurred, showing more pews and a warm, golden light. A large, semi-transparent orange circle is centered over the image, containing the text 'WHY Gather?'.

WHY
Gather?

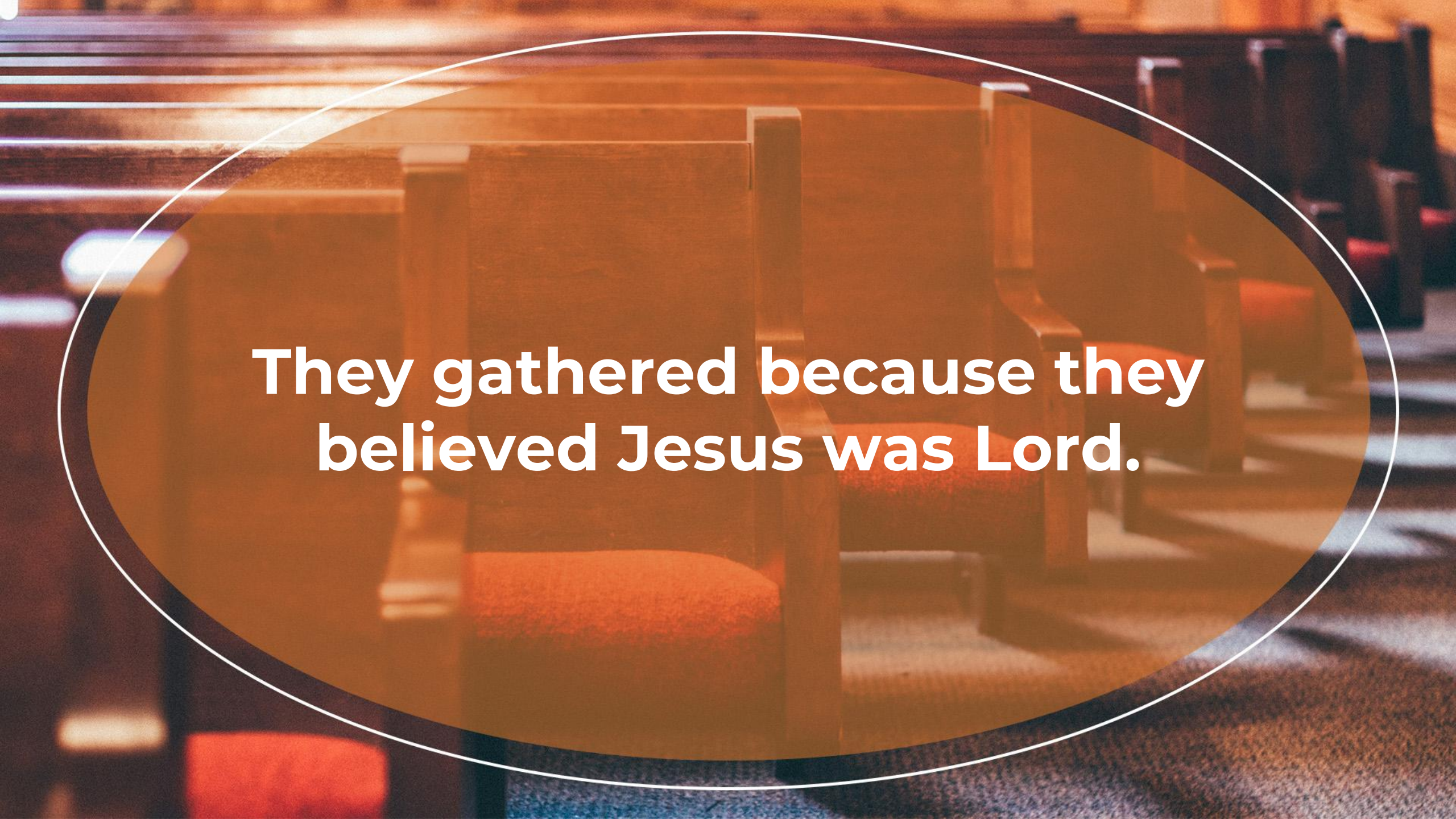
Colossians 3:1-4

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.



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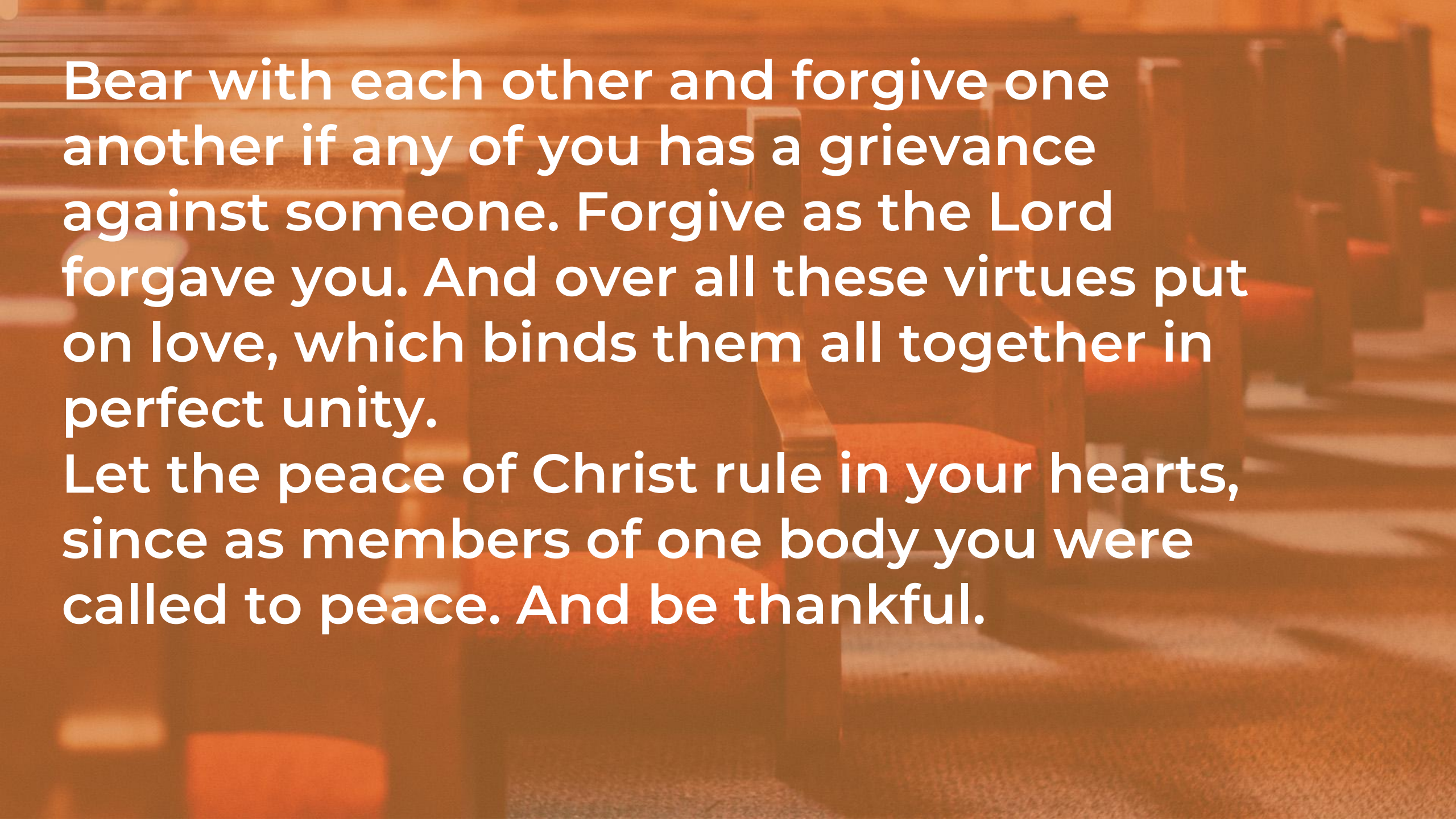
A photograph of a church interior with rows of wooden pews. The pews have orange-colored cushions. The image is slightly blurred, and a large, semi-transparent orange oval is overlaid in the center, containing white text. The lighting is warm, suggesting an indoor setting with artificial light.

**They gathered because they
believed Jesus was Lord.**

Colossians 3:5–15

Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.



Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

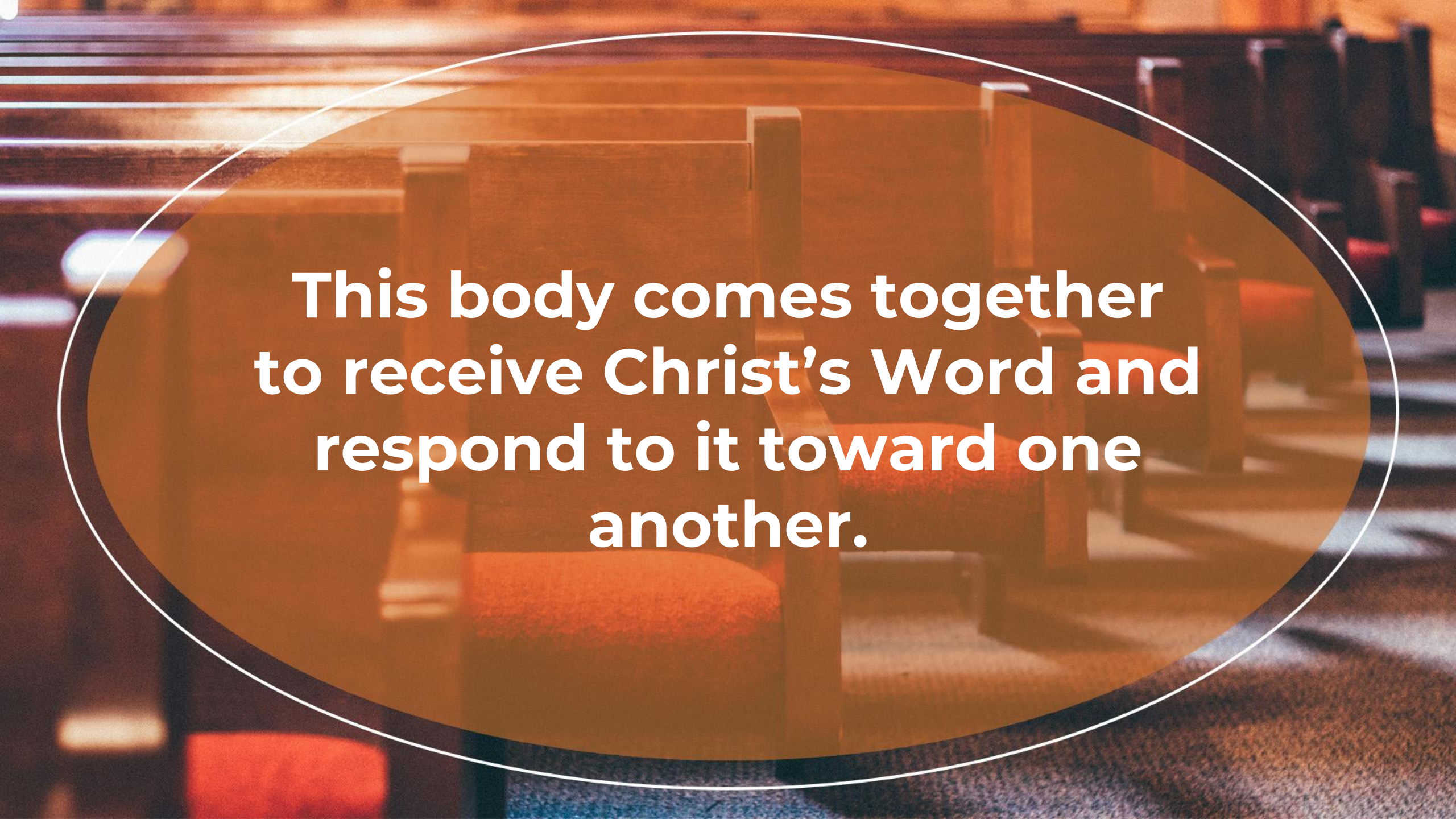
Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

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Gathering doesn't make us immune from the old self, rather it gives us a place to hear Christ's message drawing us back to him and helping one another respond.

A photograph of a church interior with rows of wooden pews. A semi-transparent orange oval is centered over the image, containing white text. The pews have red cushions and are set on a dark carpet.

**This body comes together
to receive Christ's Word and
respond to it toward one
another.**

A photograph of a church interior, showing rows of wooden pews with red cushions. The lighting is warm and the background is slightly blurred.

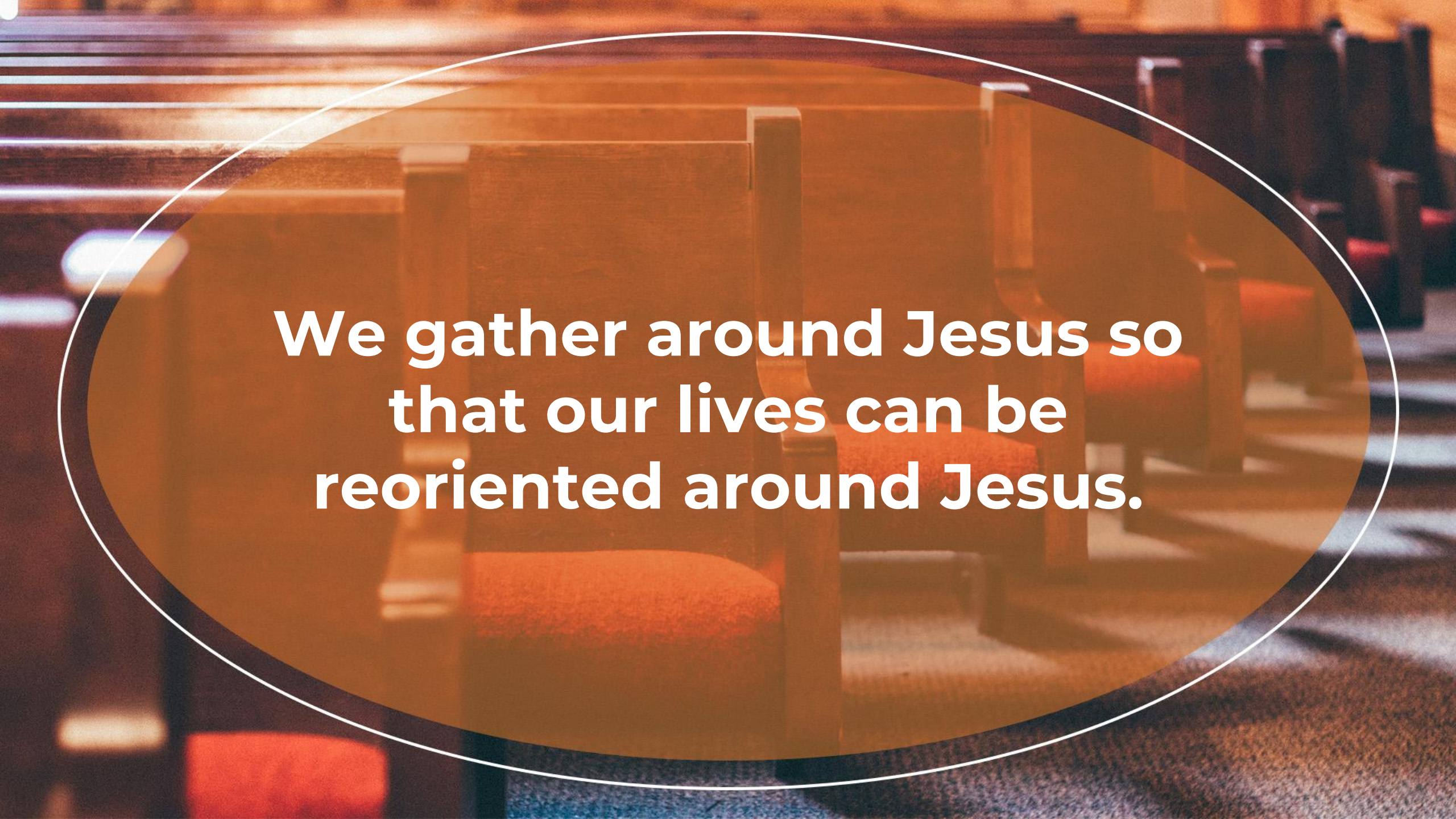
Colossians 3:16

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

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A photograph of a church interior with rows of wooden pews. The pews have orange-colored cushions. The image is slightly blurred, and a large, semi-transparent orange oval is overlaid in the center, containing white text. The background shows the perspective of the pews receding into the distance.

What is shaping you?
**Whose voice are you learning
to trust?**

A photograph of a church interior with rows of wooden pews. The pews have orange-colored cushions. The image is slightly blurred, and a large, semi-transparent orange oval is overlaid in the center, containing white text. The lighting is warm, suggesting an indoor setting with artificial light.

**We gather around Jesus so
that our lives can be
reoriented around Jesus.**



**The gathered church places
us inside a confession that
is larger than whatever we
happen to be feeling in that
moment.**

A photograph of a church interior, showing rows of wooden pews with red cushions. The lighting is warm and soft, creating a peaceful atmosphere. The pews are arranged in a perspective that leads towards the back of the church.

Colossians 3:17

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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Hebrews 10:23–25

Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.



**“The foretaste of the
kingdom in gathered
worship is a privilege we
should cherish.”
- Vincent Bacote**

MY NAME
THAT GRAVE
TO YOUR GLORIOUS DAY

YOU C
AND I RAN
OUT OF THE DARKNE





**“Why am I here?
I could watch this
on the internet.”**

Joshua Rogers

SERMON RESOURCES

