

The background of the slide is a close-up of deep red, velvety curtains. The curtains are gathered in the center, creating a dark, shadowed opening. The lighting highlights the texture and folds of the fabric, with a gradient from dark red to black in the shadows.

# The Torn Curtain

Hebrews 10:19-25

## Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that as the Scriptures are read  
and your Word proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy  
what you say to us today.  
Amen

## Hebrews 10:19-27

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is his flesh, <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

## Hebrews 10:19-27

<sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

<sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

## Hebrews 10:19-27

But you have come to Mount Zion... <sup>23</sup> and to the assembly of the first born who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup> and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood....

## Charles Wesley

*Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above*

who have obtained the prize  
and on the eagle wings of love  
to joys celestial rise

## Charles Wesley

Let saints on earth unite to sing  
with those to glory gone  
for all the servants of our King  
in earth and heaven are one

Charles Wesley (1759) *United Methodist Hymnal* #709

# The Church on Earth is an Extension of the Church in Heaven

- 1 We have real-time access to the Heavenly Assembly
- 2 There is no substitute for the in-person gathering
- 3 The way we treat the earthly assembly is the way we treat the Heavenly Assembly

## Fredrick Buechner

You can survive on your own;  
you can grow strong on your own;  
you can prevail on your own;  
but you cannot become human on your own.

## Ps Macarius (Desert Father)

There is no other way to be saved except  
through your neighbor.

The Church that worships together on earth today is an extension of the Church that worships together in heaven forever.

To neglect the earthly assembly is to neglect the Heavenly Assembly.

*Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above.* – C. Wesley

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Hebrews 10:19-25

## *Let us join our friends above and here below*

- *Let us draw near in full assurance of faith* HEB 10:22
- *Let us hold fast the confession of our hope* :23
- *Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good works* :24
- *Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the habit of some is* :25
- *But encouraging one another all the more as you see the Day approaching* :25

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