



## Church of the Ascension

Sermon Discussion Questions  
for Sunday, November 5, 2023 on  
"Stewarding Our Church Community"

**READ:** Colossians 3:12-17

### DISCUSS

- Share about a conflict you were part of that ended well. What was the experience like? What led to a peaceful resolution and/or reconciliation?
- St. Paul tells us to "bear with one another" (v. 13). Fr. Kevin said this means that if we are part of the church, we should expect a certain amount of conflict. What do you think about this? How does this make you feel? Has this been your experience?
- Can you think of a time when it was really hard to say "I am sorry" or "I forgive you"? Why was it so hard? If you were eventually able to say it (and mean it!), what were some of the factors that helped you get there?
- In Colossians 3:13, Paul tells us we if one has a complaint against another, we are to forgive each other. He says, "Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also forgive." There seems to be a very clear connection between *receiving* forgiveness and then *extending* forgiveness. What do you think about this? Has this been your experience?

### PRAY

Thank God for the gift of community wherever it's found and especially for the community of Church of the Ascension. Pray that the peace of Christ would rule in our hearts and that we would bear with one another and forgive each other. Pray especially for those who are finding it difficult to say "I am sorry" or "I forgive you."

### DO

Inventory your heart and soul. Confess your sins to Almighty God and receive his forgiveness. If there are people to whom you owe an apology or owe forgiveness, take the initiative and seek repair and reconciliation.