

Skærtorsdag 2026

Kbh og Aarh, 2. april 2026, LGJ

Salmer: 152, #3, 416, 417 // 427, 431, 179

Evangelium: Johannes 13,1-15

Det var før påskefesten, og Jesus **vidste**, at hans time var kommet, da han skulle gå bort fra denne verden til Faderen; han havde **elsket** sine egne, som var i verden, og han **elskede dem indtil det sidste**.

Og mens de holdt måltid - Djævelen havde allerede sat sig for, at Judas, Simon Iskariots søn, skulle forråde ham; og Jesus **vidste**, at Faderen havde lagt alt i hans hænder, og at han var udgået fra Gud og nu gik tilbage til Gud – så rejser Jesus sig fra bordet og lægger sin kjortel, tager et klæde og binder det om sig. Derefter hælder han vand op i et fad og giver sig til at vaske disciplenes fødder og tørre dem med klædet, som han havde bundet om sig.

Han kom så til Simon Peter, og Peter sagde til ham: "Herre, vasker du mine fødder?" Jesus svarede ham: "Hvad jeg gør, fatter du ikke nu, men senere skal du forstå det." Peter sagde: "Aldrig i evighed skal du vaske mine fødder." Jesus svarede: "Hvis jeg ikke vasker dig, har du ikke lod og del sammen med mig." Simon Peter sagde til ham: "Herre, så ikke kun fødderne, men også hænderne og hovedet!" Jesus sagde til ham: "Den, der er badet, behøver ikke at få vasket andet end fødderne, men er ren over det hele. Og I er rene; dog ikke alle." Han vidste nemlig, hvem der skulle forråde ham; derfor sagde han: I er ikke alle rene.

Da han nu havde vasket deres fødder og taget sin kjortel på og sat sig til bords igen, sagde han til dem: "Forstår I, hvad jeg har gjort mod jer? I kalder mig Mester og Herre, og med rette, for det er jeg. Når nu jeg, jeres Herre og Mester, har vasket jeres fødder, så skylder I også at vaske hinandens fødder. Jeg har givet jer et forbillede, for at I skal gøre, ligesom jeg har gjort mod jer.

1. HAN VIDSTE

VIDEN giver vished, så man gør, hvad der skal gøres.

Først noget om, hvordan det virker hos os: Når vi er usikre, er det vanskeligt at handle og love noget. "Kommer du eller kommer du ikke?" "Jeg ved det ikke." "Hvad tid kommer du? Kan vi lave en aftale?" "Jeg tør ikke rigtigt sige det, for jeg ved ikke, om jeg magter det, og måske er der også noget andet, jeg skal."

Maundy Thursday 2026

Cph and AArh April 2, 2026. LGJ

GOSPEL: John 13:1-15 ^{ESV}

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus **knew** that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having **loved** his own who were in the world, he **loved them to the end**.

² During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³ Jesus, **knowing** that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴ rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹² When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.

1. HE KNEW

Knowledge makes you certain so that you do what has to be done.

First, some thoughts about how it works with us: When we are uncertain, it is difficult to act and promise something. "Are you coming or are you not coming?" "I don't know." "What time are you coming? Can we make an appointment?" "I don't really dare to say it, because I don't know if I can do it, and maybe there's something else I need to do as well."

Sådan er det nogle gange i livet. Jo mindre vi ved, desto mere ubeslutsomme er vi. Det vi gør, bliver impulsivt. Og det bliver let noget, vi gør for vor egen skyld. Vore nærmeste kan ikke rigtigt regne med os.

Når man i ægteskabet ikke ved, at man skal elske og ære hinanden, bliver man afventende.

Når man i menigheden ikke rigtigt ved om man vil være med, dør tjenesten ud.

Når man på arbejde ikke rigtigt ved, om man vil blive i stillingen, bliver man til sidst fyret, fordi man ikke passer sit arbejde.

Helt anderledes med Jesus. Han vidste to ting: 1) *Han vidste, at hans time var kommet, da han skulle gå bort fra denne verden ...* Og 2) *han vidste, at Faderen havde lagt alt i hans hænder, og at han var udgået fra Gud og skulle vende tilbage til Gud.*

Jesus vidste, at det var nu, han skulle, hvad han skulle. Og han vidste, hvad han skulle. Være et offerlam for verdens synd. Det skulle han denne påske. Johannes-evangeliet siger helt fra begyndelsen, at det var målet at Gud blev menneske og kom til os: Kap. 1: *"Se Guds lam, som bærer verdens synd!"* Og kap. 3: *Således elskede Gud verden, at han gav sin søn, den enbårne."* Vished. Og nu fortæller apostlen, at Jesus vidste, at timen var kommet til, at Jesus skulle han bære verdens synd på korset.

Det betyder helt konkret, at han skulle lide, fordi vi ikke rigtigt vidste, om vi ville elske og ære i ægteskab og familie. Han skulle dø for os, fordi vi ikke rigtigt vidste, om vi ville tjene vore søstre og brødre i menigheden. Han skulle straffes, fordi vi ikke turde binde os, og ikke helt vidste, om vi skulle give os hen i arbejdet og tjene trofast i det kald, der er vores.

Men fortjener vi da straf for ikke at give os helt hen for hinanden og andre i tjeneste? Hænger skyld og straf sammen? Ja, det gør det. Der mærker vi svagt i samvittigheden. V ved det også fra samfundet. Og vi ved det fra Bibelen, hvor Gud fortæller, at overtrædelse fører til død og straf.

Jesus vidste, at han nu skulle bære den straf for os, og ikke kun for os, men for alle mennesker, nemlig verdens synd. **Jesus vidste**, hvem han var, og hvad der var hans opgave her i verden. Han vidste, at Faderen havde lagt alt i hans hænder. Faderen og Sønnen ville nu gøre det for os, som skulle gøres.

That's how it is sometimes in life. The less we know, the more indecisive we are. What we do becomes impulsive. And it easily becomes something we do for our own sake. Our loved ones can't really count on us.

When you don't know in marriage that you have to love and honor each other, you become hesitant. When you in the congregation do not really know if you want to join, the ministry dies out. When you don't really know if you want to stay in the position at work, you are eventually fired because you don't do your job faithfully.

Completely different with Jesus. He knew two things: (1) *He knew that His hour had come when He would depart from this world.* and 2) *he knew that the Father had put all things in his hands, and that he had gone forth from God and was to return to God.*

Jesus knew that now was the time to do what he had to do. And he knew what he had to do. Be a sacrificial lamb for the sins of the world. He was going to do that this Easter. The Gospel of John says from the very beginning that it was the goal that God became man and came to us: Chap. 1: *"Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"* And chapter 3: *God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son."* Certainty. And now the apostle tells us that Jesus knew that the hour had come for Jesus to bear the sins of the world on the cross.

Specifically, this means that he had to suffer because we didn't really know if we would love and honor in marriage and family. He was going to die for us because we didn't really know if we would serve our sisters and brothers in the congregation. He was to be punished because we did not dare to commit ourselves and did not quite know whether we should give ourselves to the work and serve faithfully in the calling that is ours.

But do we deserve punishment for not giving ourselves completely to each other and others in service? Are guilt and punishment connected? Yes, it does. We feel a faint feeling in our conscience. We also know this from society. And we know it from the Bible, where God tells us that transgression leads to death and punishment.

Jesus knew that He now had to bear that punishment for us, and not only for us, but for all people, namely the sin of the world. **Jesus knew** who he was and what his mission was in this world. He knew that the Father had put everything in His

Hvor vi dog har brug for vished og viden. Og det giver Gud os igen denne påske. Vi får at vide, hvem vi er, og hvad der er vores kald: at vi skal Gud og elske vor næste som os selv. Og at døden og dommen er uundgåelig. Og i beretningen om Jesu lidelse og død for os, får vi håb og vished om, at alt ligger i Jesu hænder. Vores skyld og synd. Og også straffen. I de hænder, som blev korsfæstet. Det ved vi helt sikkert. Her er vished, så vi kan give os hen for hinanden.

2. HAN ELSKEDE DEM – TIL DET SIDSTE

Det er det andet. At kærligheden drev ham.

Apostlen Johannes fortæller: *Jesus havde elsket sine egne, som var i verden, og han elskede dem indtil det sidste.*

Han havde elsket dem, mens han var i verden: Han bar dem, stillede stormen på søen, han bespiste dem i ørkenen, han prædikede trøstende ord til dem, han opmuntrede dem, når de var bekymrede og troen var ved at forgå, han elskede dem ved at helbrede, uddrive onde ånder, opvække deres døde 3 gange og tilgive tusind gange og tage dem ud af frygt og lidelse. De var hos ham med deres byrder og fik hvile.

Når han også elskede dem til det sidste, betyder det, at han elskede dem i påsken, da han skulle ofres for deres synder for at føre dem til Gud.

Det kom til udtryk denne sidste aften, hvor han vaskede deres fødder. To disciple havde forberedt påskemåltidet: Peter og Johannes. De havde også stillet et vaskefad frem med et håndklæde. Og mon ikke de ventede på, at Jesus udpegede en af de 12 til at vaske de andres fødder. Det var jo lidt spændende, hvem Jesus ville vælge. Men han valgte sig selv. Evangeliet fortæller: *Og mens de holdt måltid, ... så rejser Jesus sig fra bordet og lægger sin kjortel, tager et klæde og binder det om sig. Derefter hælder han vand op i et fad og giver sig til at vaske disciplenes fødder og tørre dem med klædet, som han havde bundet om sig.*

De sad tavse og tog imod. Men da han kom til Peter, sagde han: *"Herre, vasker du mine fødder?"* Jesus svarede ham: *"Hvad jeg gør, fatter du ikke nu, men senere skal du forstå det."* Peter sagde: *"Aldrig i evighed skal du vaske mine fødder."* Jesus svarede: *"Hvis jeg ikke vasker dig, har du ikke lod og del sammen med mig."*

Her pegede Jesus frem på det, han senere ville gøre og har gjort for os i dåbens bad. Er det

hands. The Father and the Son would now do for us what had to be done.

Where, however, we need certainty and knowledge. And God gives us that again this Easter. We are told who we are and what is our calling: that we must God and love our neighbor as ourselves. And that death and judgment are inevitable. And in the story of Jesus' suffering and death for us, we gain hope and certainty that everything is in Jesus' hands. Our guilt and sin. And also the punishment. In the hands that were crucified. We know that for sure. Here is certainty so that we can give ourselves over to each other.

2. HE LOVED THEM – TO THE END

That is the second thing. That love drove him. The Apostle John relates: *Jesus had loved his own who were in the world, and he loved them to the end.*

He had loved them while He was in the world: He carried them, calmed the storm on the sea, He fed them in the wilderness, He preached words of comfort to them, He encouraged them when they were worried and faith was about to pass away, He loved them by healing, casting out evil spirits, raising their dead 3 times and forgiving a thousand times and taking them out of fear and suffering. They were with him with their burdens and had rest.

When He also loved them to the end, it means that He loved them at Easter, when He had to be sacrificed for their sins to bring them to God.

This was expressed on this last night, when he washed their feet. Two disciples had prepared the Passover meal: Peter and John. They had also set out a washbasin with a towel. And I wonder if they were waiting for Jesus to appoint one of the 12 to wash the feet of the others. It was a bit exciting who Jesus would choose. But he chose himself. The Gospel tells us: *And while they were eating, ... Then Jesus gets up from the table and puts down his robe, takes a cloth and ties it around himself. Then he pours water into a basin and begins to wash the disciples' feet and wipe them with the cloth that he had tied around him.*

They sat silent and accepted. But when he came to Peter, he said, *"Lord, do you wash my feet?"* Jesus answered him, *"What I am doing you do not understand now, but later you will understand."* Peter said, *"Never in eternity shall you wash my feet."* Jesus answered, *"If I do not wash you, you have no lot to share with me."*

nødvendigt, spørger vi med Peter. Men Jesus siger: ”JA!” Jesus må vaske os rene fra al den mangel på kærlighed, som klæber ved os og vores liv, ligesom det hang ved Peters og de andre apostles og ved vores liv.

Kærligheden driver Jesus til at tjene dem som en slave, der vasker deres fødder. Det var ydmygende, at de ikke selv påtog sig dette. Sådan ydmyges vi også, når en anden påtager sig noget, som vi burde have gjort.

Men det er godt at blive ydmyget sådan. Da må vi takke for at vi er døbt og rensset for al vor skyld.

Også Judas fik sine fødder vasket af Jesus. Og da Jesus sagde: I er rene, dog ikke alle, da var det en advarsel og et stærkt kald til Judas. Men han sad med stive fødder og gik kort efter ud i mørket for at sælge Jesus for 30 sølvpenge. Han tog ikke imod Jesu kærlige advarsel.

Og til sidst spørger Jesus, om apostlene og vi har forstået, hvad han gjorde for dem, da han vaskede deres fødder, og hvad han har gjort for os, da han rensede os i dåben. *"Forstår I, hvad jeg har gjort mod jer?"*

Og han forklarer så det, for at vi kan forstå det: *I kalder mig Mester og Herre, og med rette, for det er jeg. Når nu jeg, jeres Herre og Mester, har vasket jeres fødder, så skylder I også at vaske hinandens fødder. Jeg har givet jer et forbillede, for at I skal gøre, ligesom jeg har gjort mod jer.*

At JESUS bar vor synd og skyld i påsken, og at Jesus rensede vaskede deres fødder og døbte os, så vi hører sammen med ham, det betyder, at vi skal gøre, ligesom han har gjort mod os. Han sammenfattede det sådan samme aften: *Et nyt bud giver jeg jer: I skal elske hinanden. Som jeg har elsket jer, skal også I elske hinanden. (Joh 13,34)*

Det er et krav fra ham, som elsker os. Og det udfoldes i de 10 bud, så vi ikke er i tvivl om, hvad vi skal. Det skal vi gøre, for at Gud kan få tak og ære, og for at vor næste får gavn og hjælp. Og hvad får vi ud af det? Intet. Kun arbejde og måske også lidelse. Men vi skal. Vi skal fordi han har elsket os. Og fordi han elskede os til det sidste. Vask hinandens fødder. Amen.

Here Jesus pointed out what he would later do and has done for us in the bath of baptism. Is it necessary, we ask Peter. But Jesus says, "YES!" Jesus must wash us clean from all the lack of love that clings to us and our lives, just as it was to the lives of Peter and the other apostles and to our lives.

Love drives Jesus to serve them as a slave who washes their feet. It was humiliating that they did not take this on themselves. This is also how we are humiliated when someone else takes on something that we should have done.

But it's good to be humiliated like that. Then we must give thanks that we have been baptized and cleansed for all our sake.

Judas also had his feet washed by Jesus. And when Jesus said, "You are clean, though not all," it was a warning and a strong call to Judas. But he sat with stiff feet and shortly afterwards went out into the darkness to sell Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. He did not heed Jesus' loving warning.

And finally, Jesus asks if the apostles and we have understood what He did for them when He washed their feet and what He has done for us when He cleansed us in baptism. *"Do you understand what I have done to you?"*

And he then explains it so that we may understand it: *You call me Master and Lord, and rightly so, for I am. Now that I, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you also owe it to you to wash one another's feet. I have given you an example for you to do as I have done to you.*

That JESUS bore our sin and guilt at the Passover, and that Jesus cleansed, washed their feet, and baptized us so that we belong with Him, means that we must do as He has done to us. He summed it up that night: *I give you a new commandment: Love one another. As I have loved you, you also must love one another. (John 13:34)*

It is a demand from Him who loves us. And this is unfolded in the 10 commandments, so we are in no doubt about what we are supposed to do. We must do this so that God may receive thanks and glory, and so that our neighbor may benefit and help. And what do we get out of it? Nothing. Only work and maybe also suffering. But we must. We have to because He has loved us. And because He loved us to the end. Wash each other's feet. Amen.