

Jeg efterlader jer ikke faderløse

Prædiken pinsedag, 24-25.5.2026. LGJ.

Pinsedag: Jeremias 31,31-34. ApG 2,1-11. Joh 14,15-21.

2. pinsedag: Ezekiel 11,19-20. Ap.G 2,42-47. Joh 6,44-51.

Salmer: 246v1-4, #2, 258, 178, // 252, 431, 246v5

Johannes 14,15-21

¹⁵ *Elsker I mig, så vil I holde mine bud; ¹⁶ og jeg vil bede Faderen, og han vil give jer en anden talsmand, som skal være hos jer til evig tid: ¹⁷ sandhedens ånd, som verden ikke kan tage imod, fordi den hverken ser eller kender den. I kender den, for den bliver hos jer og skal være i jer. ¹⁸ Jeg vil ikke efterlade jer faderløse; jeg kommer til jer. ¹⁹ Endnu en kort tid, og verden ser mig ikke længere, men I ser mig, for jeg lever; og I skal leve. ²⁰ Den dag skal I erkende, at jeg er i min fader; og I er i mig og jeg i jer. ²¹ Den, der har mine bud og holder dem, han er den, der elsker mig; og den, der elsker mig, skal elskes af min fader; også jeg skal elske ham og give mig til kende for ham.»*

Kristne har i siden den første kristne pinsefest lyttet til det, Jesus sagde til disciplene den sidste aften, de var sammen. Og særligt Johannes-evangeliet kapitel 14. Her lovede Jesus sine disciple, Helligånden, Talsmanden og Sandhedens Ånd skulle være hos dem til evig tid. Og han var med dem. Og han er det stadig. Og vil være hos os til evig tid. Han trøster sin kirke ved at give os Evangeliet om Jesus. Det er sådan han bevarer han sin kristne kirke og os i den.

I den kristne kirke har man på pinsedag særligt lyttet til Johannes 14,15-31. Her fandt kristne før os trøst og hjælp. Vi lytter også på pinsedagen til Jesu ord i Johannes-evangeliet 14. Jesus lover os Sandhedens Ånd, som taler til os og fortæller os, at vi ikke er faderløse.

1.

Jesus taler først om disciplenes kærlighed til ham: "Elsker I mig, så vil I holde mine bud." (vers 15)

Hvad er det for en kærlighed, de apostlene har?

- Det er ikke en kærlighed, hvor de dør for at redde ham. For de flygtede, da soldater tog Jesus til fange Gethsemane. Og Simon Peter fornægtede ham samme nat.
- Det er heller ikke en kærlighed, hvor de ofrer sig for ham. Det var jo Jesus, der ofrede sig for dem som Guds lam, der bar verdens synd.
- Det er heller ikke en kærlighed, hvor de kan sige om sige "Det er fuldbragt" om det, de har gjort her i livet. Kun Jesus har gjort alt godt. Kun han kan sige "Det er fuldbragt!"

I will not leave you as orphans

Pentecost, 24-25.5.2026. LGJ.

Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34. Acts 2:1-11. John 14,15-21. 2.

Pentecost: Ez 11,19-20. Acts 2:42-47. John 6,44-51

Hymns: 246v1-4, #2, 258, 178, // 252, 431, 246v5

John 14:15-21 NAU

¹⁵ *"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. ¹⁶ "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper; that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ "After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you will see Me; because I live, you will live also. ²⁰ "In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. ²¹ "He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him."*

Since the first Christian Feast of Pentecost, Christians have listened to what Jesus said to the disciples on the last night they were together. And especially the Gospel of John chapter 14. Here Jesus promised his disciples, the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, and the Spirit of Truth would be with them forever. And He was with them. And still is. And will be forever. He is comforting his church giving us the Gospel of Jesus. This is how he preserves his Christian church and us in it.

In the Christian church, on Pentecost they have listened especially to John 14:15-31. Here Christians before us found comfort and help. We also listen on the day of Pentecost to Jesus' words in the Gospel of John 14. Jesus promises us the Spirit of Truth, who speaks to us and tells us that we are not fatherless / orphans.

1.

Jesus first speaks of the disciples' love for him: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." (verse 15)

What kind of love do the apostles have?

- It is not a love where they die for him in order to save him. For they fled when soldiers took Jesus captive to Gethsemane. And Simon Peter denied him in the court of the high priest.
- Nor is it a love in which they sacrifice themselves for him. After all, it was Jesus who sacrificed himself for them as the Lamb of God, who bore the sins of the world.
- Nor is it a love where they can say about say "It's finished" about what they've done in life. Only Jesus has done everything well. Only he can say, "It's done!"

- Det er heller ikke en kærlighed, som viser sig ved, at de elsker hinanden. For netop den aften, hvor Jesus fortalte dem om sin død, kom de i strid om, hvem af dem, der var den største. De svigtede kærligheden.

Men hvad er det da for en kærlighed, de har til Jesus?

Jesus forklarer, at den viser sig ved, at de *"holder hans bud"*. Og her er det vigtigt at vide, hvad ordet *"holder"* betyder, og hvordan det bruges andre steder i Bibelen. Det bruges fx i Johannes-evangeliet kapitel to om brylluppet i Kana. Johannes fortæller, at brudgommen havde *"gemt"* den gode vin til sidst. At *"holde"* er at gemme og bevare noget. Og i Apostlenes Gerninger kap. 12, fortælles, at Peter var fængslet. Og her står, at fængsels-betjentene *"holdt vagt"*, for at Peter ikke skulle flygte. *"At holde"* Jesu bud betyder derfor at *"holde fast ved"*, *"bevare"* og *"klynge sig til"* det, Jesus har sagt, til hans budskab, hans bud og alle hans ord.

Disciplene viste deres kærlighed til Jesus ved at holde fast ved det, han havde fortalt dem og vist dem og gjort for dem. De klyngede sig især til det, han fortalte dem denne sidste aften før sin død. Sådan elskede de ham. Og det er den kærlighed, vi må elske Jesus med.

Evangelisten Johannes skriver som indledning til påskemåltidet: *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. (Joh 13,1).* Den aften havde Jesus vasket deres fødder, og han havde sagt, at det var nødvendigt, for at de kunne være sammen med ham. Samme aften havde han i påskemåltidet indstiftet den nye pagt med brød og vin og sagt: *"Det er mit legeme og det er mit blod, som gives og udgydes for jer til syndernes forladelse"*. Det holdt disciplene fast ved. Og er kristne overalt i verden denne pinse. Det er sådan, vi elsker Jesus. Jesus gentager det lige efter vores tekst i vers 23: *"Den, der elsker mig, vil holde fast ved mit ord, og min fader vil elske ham, og vi skal komme til ham og tage bolig hos ham."* Kærlighed til Gud er at klynge sig til og tro på, at han elsker os.

2.

Mens vi holder fast ved Jesu bud og ord, sker der ufatteligt store ting. Jesus siger: ***"Elsker I mig, så vil I holde mine bud; og jeg vil bede Faderen, og han vil give jer en anden Talsmand, som skal være hos jer til evig tid: Sandhedens Ånd"*** (v15-18).

Disse tre store ting sker, når vi holder fast ved Jesu ord.

- Nor is it a love that is shown by the fact that they love each other. For on the very night when Jesus told them about his death, they quarreled over which of them was the greatest. They betrayed love.

But what kind of love do they have for Jesus?

Jesus explains that it is shown by the fact that they *"keep his commandments."* And here it is important to know what the word "keeping" means and how it is used elsewhere in the Bible. It is used, for example, in the Gospel of John, chapter two, about the wedding in Cana. John tells us that the bridegroom had "saved" the good wine for last. To "keep" is to save and preserve something. And in Acts chapter 12, it is told that Peter was imprisoned. And here it says that the prison guards "kept watch" so that Peter would not escape. "Keeping" Jesus' commandments therefore means "holding fast to," "keeping," and "clinging to" what Jesus has said, to his message, his commandments, and all his words.

The disciples showed their love for Jesus by sticking to what He had told them and shown them and done for them. They especially clung to what he told them on the last night before his death. That's how they loved him. And that is how we as Christians today love Jesus.

The evangelist John writes as an introduction to the Passover meal: *Jesus knew that his hour had come when he would depart from this world to the Father; he had loved his own who were in the world, and he loved them to the end. (John 13:1).* That night Jesus had washed their feet, and He had said that it was necessary for them to be with Him. That same evening he had instituted the new covenant with bread and wine in the Passover meal, saying: *"It is my body and it is my blood that is given and shed for you for the remission of sins"*. The disciples stuck to it. And are Christians all over the world this Pentecost. That is how we love Jesus this very day.

Jesus repeats it right after our text in verse 23: *"He who loves me will hold fast to my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and dwell with him."* Love for God is clinging to and believing that He loves us.

2.

While we hold fast to Jesus' commandments and words, unimaginably great things happen. Jesus says, ***"If you love me, you will keep my commandments; and I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Comforter, who shall abide with you forever, the Spirit of truth"*** (vv15-18).

These three great things happen while we hold fast to Jesus' words.

- Jesus beder for os. Han beder til sin far. Det betyder for os, at Jesus beder for os lige nu, mens vi er i kirke og hører hans ord. Og han beder for dig, når I ved køkkenbordet holder andagt morgen og på dit værelse om aftenen.
- Det andet, som sker, når vi sammen med andre kristne holder fast ved Jesu ord, er, at Faderen hører sin Søns bøn og sender en anden Talsmand, Helligånden, som skriver evangeliet ind i vore hjerter.
- Og det tredje er, at Talsmanden, Helligånden vil være hos alle kristne til evig tid, også med os personligt i denne menighed. Jesus kalder ham "Sandhedens Ånd", fordi han fortæller os sandheden om os og om Jesus. Og det gode er, at han bliver ved og ved, så vi kan beholde troen.

Sandheden om os er, at vi ikke i os selv har den kærlighed, som vi skylder Gud og hinanden. Vi er ikke bedre end de disciple, som svigtede Jesus natten før han døde. De vidste, at de skulle elske Gud og hinanden, men gjorde de det? Og gør vi det? Vi gør nok vort bedste, ligesom disciplene gjorde deres bedste. Men samtidig svigter vi ofte. – Vi mærker, at vi er syndere, som har brug for Jesus, fordi Sandhedens Ånd arbejder med os og viser os sandheden om os.

Men det vigtigste er, at Sandhedens Ånd bliver ved med at fortælle os sandheden om Jesus, at Jesus bar vore synder på korset, døde i vort sted og opstod fra graven. Jesus lover os, at Talsmanden vil fortælle os om Jesus. "*Han skal herliggøre mig, for han skal tage af mit og forkynde det for jer.*" (Joh 16,14). Og Jesus lover, at Sandhedens Ånd **vil være hos os til evig tid**. Det betyder, at han vil blive ved med at gøre Jesu offer-kærlighed levende for os, så vi holder fast ved Evangeliet hver eneste dag. Sådan giver han os fred med Gud og fred med hinanden.

3.

Sådan giver Jesus os denne pinse al den trøst og hjælp, vi behøver. Han siger: "**Jeg vil ikke efterlade jer faderløse; jeg kommer til jer**" (vers 18). Han ved, at disciplene føler sig som faderløse børn, nu da Jesus har fortalt dem, at han må forlade dem og dø. Men de bliver ikke faderløse. For han går han til Faderen for at forberede en plads til dem i herligheden. Og han kommer om kort tid tilbage til dem.

Også vi kan føles os faderløse og forladt af Gud. Vi møder også denne erfaring i mange bønner i Salmernes Bog. Fx Sl 10: *Hvorfor står du så langt borte, Herre? Hvorfor skjuler du dig i trange tider?* Da må vi klynge os til og holde fast ved, at Jesus sagde: "**Jeg vil ikke efterlade jer faderløse. Jeg kommer til jer.**"

- Jesus prays for us. He prays to his father. This means that Jesus is praying for us right now, while we are at church and hear His Word. And he prays for you when you hold devotions at the kitchen table mornings, and in your room in the evening.
- The second thing that happens when we, along with other Christians, hold fast to the words of Jesus, is that the Father hears the prayer of his Son and sends another Comforter, the Holy Spirit, who writes the gospel into our hearts.
- And the third is that the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, will be with all Christians forever, also with us personally in this congregation. Jesus calls him "the Spirit of Truth" because he tells us the truth about us and about Jesus. And keeps telling us and goes on and on, so that we can keep the faith.

The truth about us is that we do not have in ourselves the love that we owe to God and to each other. We are no better than the disciples who forsook Jesus the night before He died. They knew they were supposed to love God and each other, but did they? And do we? We are probably doing our best, just as the disciples did their best. But at the same time, we often fail. – We realize that we are sinners who need Jesus, because Spirit of Truth, works with us and shows us the truth about us.

But the most important thing is that the Spirit of Truth keeps telling us the truth about Jesus, that Jesus bore our sins on the cross, died in our place, and rose from the grave. Jesus promises us that the Comforter will tell us about Jesus. "*He will glorify me, for he will take of mine and declare it to you.*" (John 16:14). And Jesus promises that the Spirit of Truth **will be with us forever**. This means that He will continue to make Jesus' sacrificial love alive for us, so that we hold on to the Gospel every single day. This is how he gives us peace with God and peace with one another.

3.

In this way Jesus gives us the comfort and help we need. He says: "**I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.**" (verse 18). He knows that the disciples feel like being orphans, now that Jesus has told them that he must leave them and die. But they do not become fatherless. For he goes to the Father to prepare a place for them in glory. And he will soon be back to them.

We, too, can feel being like orphans and forsaken by God. We also encounter this experience in many prayers in the book of Psalms. For example, Psalm 10: *Why are you so far away, Lord? Why do you hide in tight times?* Then we must cling to and hold fast to the fact that Jesus said: "**I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.**"

Jesus siger jo, at erfaringen med at være ladet alene kun varer en kort tid. Smerten og lidelsen er kort, selv om den føles uendelig. Jesus lader os en kort tid mærke, at vi behøver ham som vor frelser. Og han kommer os til hjælp. Han siger **"Endnu en kort tid, og verden ser mig ikke længere, men I ser mig, for jeg lever, og I skal leve. Den dag skal I erkende, at jeg er i min fader, og I er i mig og jeg i jer"** (v19-20). "Den dag" var påskedag, hvor Jesus kom tilbage til disciplene, mens de sad bag låste døre af frygt for jøderne. Jesus kom til dem i deres største frygt og viste dem sine gennemborede hænder og sin side, hvor soldatens spyd havde ramt ham. Og han sagde: **"Fred være med jer!"** Da blev de glade. Og han gentog det: **"Fred være med jer!"** Derpå åndede han på dem og sagde: **"Modtag Helligånden."** Og han gav dem som opgave at give syndernes forladelse videre til andre. (Det står i Johannes-evangeliet 20,19-23). - Sådan fik disciplene Talsmanden, Sandhedens Ånd.

På samme måde fik mange i Jerusalem troen og Helligåndens gave pinedag. Peter prædikede om Jesu død og opstandelse. Det gik op for mange, at de havde korsfæstet Kristus. Det stak dem i hjertet. Og de spurgte apostlene: **"Hvad skal vi gøre, brødre?"** Og apostlen svarede: **«Omvend jer og lad jer alle døbe i Jesu Kristi navn til jeres synders forladelse, så skal I få Helligånden som gave. For løftet gælder jer og jeres børn og alle dem i det fjerne, som Herren vor Gud vil kalde på.»** (ApG 2,37-39).

Dette løfte gælder også os og vore børn. Derfor er vi ikke faderløse. Talsmanden, Helligånden er hos os og gør Jesu ord levende hos os lige nu. Helligånden skriver Jesu ord ind i dit bange hjerte. Jesus siger jo: **Talsmanden skal blive hos jer og være i jer.** Og Jesus lover os: **"Den dag skal I erkende, at jeg er i min fader, og I er i mig og jeg i jer."** Den dag er i dag.

Vi er ikke faderløse. Derfor kan vi frimodigt bede: **"Fader vor, du som er i Himlene. Helliget blive dit navn. Komme dit rige. Ske din vilje som i himlen, således også på jorden. Giv os i dag vort daglige brød. Og forlad os vor skyld, som vi forlader vore skyldnere. Led os ikke ind i fristelse, men fri os fra det onde. ...** Og tænk, at vi kan afslutte bønner i tillid til, at **riget, magten, og æren er hans i evighed.**

Vi er ikke faderløse, for vi er døbt i Faderens, Sønnens og Helligåndens navn og tilhører ham. Amen.

Jesus says that experiences being left alone only lasts a short time. The pain and suffering are short even if we feel it being endless. Jesus lets us feel for a short time that we need Him as our Savior. And He comes to our aid. He says, **"Another little while, and the world sees me no more, but you see me, for I live, and you shall live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I in you"** (v19-20).

"That day" was Easter Sunday, when Jesus came back to the disciples while they sat behind locked doors for fear of the Jews. Jesus came to them in their greatest fear and showed them his pierced hands and his side where the spear of the soldier had struck him. And he said, **"Peace be with you!"** Then they were happy. And he repeated it: **"Peace be with you!"** Then he breathed on them and said, **"Receive the Holy Spirit."** And he gave them the task of passing on the forgiveness of sins to others. (It's in John 20:19-23). - This is how the disciples received the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth.

In the same way, many in Jerusalem received the faith and the gift of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Peter preached about the death and resurrection of Jesus. Many realized that they had crucified Christ. It stung them in the heart. And they asked the apostles, **"What shall we do, brethren?"** And the apostle Peter answered: **"Repent and be baptized all of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, and for your children, and for all those in the afar whom the Lord our God shall call."** (Acts 2:37-39).

This promise also applies to us and to our children. Therefore, we are not orphans. The Comforter, the Holy Spirit is with us and makes the words of Jesus come alive with us just now. The Holy Spirit writes the words of Jesus into your fearful heart. Jesus says, **"The Comforter will stay with you and be in you."** And Jesus promises us: **"That day you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I in you."** That day is today.

We are not orphans. Therefore, we can pray boldly, **"Our Father, you who art in heaven. Hallowed be your name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done as it is in heaven, so also on earth. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. ...** And we can end the prayer in the confidence that **the kingdom, the power, and the glory are his in eternity.**

We are not orphans, for we are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost and belong to Him. Amen.