

Sunday worship

Join online

<http://bit.ly/3TSxxek>

Watch on YouTube

<http://bit.ly/3aCxmjW>

WELCOME

We warmly welcome you, if you are worshipping with us for the first time. We believe you've become a member of our church family by God's grace.

Please ensure you speak to the Pastor or one of today's facilitators before you leave.

May God bless you richly (Amen).

VERSE(S) OF THE DAY

Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.
Matthew 6:31; 33 (NKJV)

THEME FOR THE YEAR

Our theme this year is to **enlarge and build better (Isaiah 54:2-3)**, and by God's grace, we're trusting that the boundary lines will fall for us in pleasant places (Amen).

Season Programmes

Fridays: Last meeting on 16th Dec

Xmas Day: Service from 10-11am

Watchnite: 31 Dec, 9pm-12:10am

New Year: Thanksgiving, from 10am



God will heal your heart,
but only if you give
Him all the
pieces.

Image source(s): <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/415457134353736494/>



Sunday 18 December 2022

WELCOME

Redeemed Christian Church of God

Bethel

WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

SUNDAY

Thanksgiving / Worship
service
From 10am

FRIDAY

Prayer meeting / Bible study
From 7pm

RCCG Bethel Parish

Unit 13, Skylines Village

Limeharbour, London E14 9TS

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Our 'must-visit' website



Our website is a treasure trove of information, and not only about our focus and mission. You could subscribe to our podcast or listen to past sermons too (<http://rccgbethel.church/sermons/>). This is particularly useful for when you are unable to attend services or for refreshing your recollection as an essential part of your private Bible study.

There's more! Details of events and outreach will almost certainly be available from relevant pages on our website and updated regularly, along with downloadable copies of our Sunday bulletins (<http://rccgbethel.church/category/bulletins/>).

So, why don't you set our homepage as one of your **startup page(s)** in your browser now? The following instructions for most of the common browsers may help.

Google Chrome

1. Open the browser and the **Settings** menu (or the **three vertical dots** to the right of the menu bar).
2. Scroll down and click on **Advanced Settings**.
3. Select **Open a specific page or set of pages** under **On Startup**.
4. Select **Set pages** and enter or add <http://rccgbethel.church/>.

Mozilla Firefox

1. Open Firefox. Press **Alt-T** on the keyboard and select **Options** from the drop-down menu or go to **Tools >> Options** from the main menu.
2. In the **Home** section, select **Homepage and new windows** and **Custom URLs...** from the field's drop down.
3. Enter or paste the URL: <http://rccgbethel.church/> or click **Use Current Page** if you are already on our website.

Microsoft Edge

1. Click the **three horizontal dots** to the right of the top menu bar.
2. Select **Settings** and select **A Specific Page or Pages** from the **Open Microsoft Edge With** section drop down options.
3. Enter <http://rccgbethel.church/>. (Click the Plus sign to add more pages if required).
4. Click the **three horizontal dots** to the right of the top menu bar again to close **Settings** menu.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Portraits of Jesus – The woman who washed Jesus's feet with her tears

Text: Luke 7:36-50

Last week, we started our Portraits of Jesus series, aiming to look at the women who encountered Christ. We will continue today with another unnamed but remarkable woman, who wiped her tears of distress off Jesus's feet with her hair. Not only that, she brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil along with her and anointed his feet with the oil.

As you could imagine, the response of those watching the incident is mixed. Most notable is that of Simon the leper, who was Jesus's host and the Pharisees. They thought Jesus should've known the woman was a sinner and therefore shun her.

While others often want to silence woman throughout history, we will find that Jesus goes out of his way to acknowledge them. The fact is the woman herself knew she was a sinner, hence her distressed worship at the feet of Jesus, inspired by her desire for forgiveness. It is interesting that one of the things perfumes are used for is to mask decay and death. The woman may've been trying to mask the decay and immorality in her life with the fragrant oil until she encountered Jesus. Then, she didn't need to anymore.

Jesus contrasted the woman's behaviour with Simon's and forgave her sins because "**for she loved much**" (Lk 7:40-48). Just as God gave us his son out of love (Jn 3:16), the woman gave out of love too, expecting nothing back. If loving equates to giving and you love God, what are you willing to give him? Paul told us our bodies should be "**a living sacrifice**" to God (Rom 12:1-2).

It is curious that when God declared himself to Abraham as a reward, all Abraham could think of is what he lacked (Gen 15:1-2). How often do we behave like Abraham? It should be a privilege to give to God and God will always reward our generosity with more (Prov 28:27). Jesus would later remark that the woman would be remembered for what he did, anointing and preparing him for death (Matt 26:12-14).

Bottom line:

If you love God, what will you give to him? The Holy Spirit may demand something extravagant from us. Sometimes it may be small or simple. Regardless, can we afford to withhold anything from God?

RCCG Bethel Parish
Pillar of truth ... defining the future today