

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

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Romans 12:2 (NKJV)

THEME FOR THE YEAR

Faith in action (2 Thessalonians 1:11)

We're trusting God to enable us to do all the good things faith prompts in us in Jesus name (NLT).

DID YOU KNOW?

Every Sunday, we worship together at **Unit 13, Skylines Village**. When unable to attend, do visit our website or YouTube channel for recorded sessions.



Sunday 24 December 2023

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

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Our 'must-visit' website



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THIS IS RCCG BETHEL PARISH, DUE TO THE CURRENT EPIDEMIC. SERVICES WILL REMAIN ONLINE TILL FURTHER NOTICE

PLEASE FOLLOW THE LINK

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 series: A transformational change

Text: Mark 2:23-28

There may be times when we face challenges so hard, we feel we can't go on. Mary may've felt like that when she went into labour. On top of everything else, there was no room anywhere except in a manger, where animals are kept. It must've been a harrowing time, but somehow Mary, Joseph and Jesus survived that night and so do we when we go through our own trials. As a result, the light of the glory of the Lord shone that night through the darkness for all who witness it (Lk 2:9; Jn 1:5). And so it does, in our time of darkness.

Born that night was the Son of Man, also known as the Lord of the Sabbath (Mk 2:28). Jesus said Sabbath was designed to meet the needs of people (Mk 2:27). However, we'll be forgiven to believe it's the other way round, with everything geared to meet the requirements of the Sabbath. A day of rest became a day of inconvenience and laws supposed to help often hold us in bondage (Mk 3:1-5; Jn 5:1-15). That's what Jesus freed us from.

He's the Son of Man. Jesus didn't mimic or pretend to be human. He was human and he identified with us and was proud to call himself the Son of Man. He faced the same challenges; hunger, thirst and was tempted like us (Jn 1:14; Matt 4:1-11). He came shivering in the night and was wrapped in swaddling clothes. He suffered like a man (Mk 8:31-33). He came to his own and they rejected him (Jn 1:11). He was known as the Messiah (Mk 8:27-30) and at the end, he was called the Son of God (Matt 27:50-54).

This is the core of the story of Christianity. It is the story of transformational change and it came when it is most desperately needed. The Son of Man became the Son of God. The blind can see. One born in a lowly manger will become the King of all ages and "**of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end**" (Isa 9:7). A maiden became a mother. A people who dwelt in the darkness saw a great light (Matt 4:16).

Bottom line:

Like the Sabbath, everything was created to support us (Colossians 1:16-23). Change is coming our way. May we experience these transformational changes in our lives, wherever and whenever it is needed in Jesus name (Rom 8:11).

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