

Third Sunday
after
PENTECOST



June 9, 2024
Holy Eucharist
Proper 5



WELCOME

- *Nave services may be livestreamed for our online congregation. Cameras focus primarily on vested ministers, but others in the cathedral may also be visible in live or archived video.*

Prelude *Praeludium in D Major, BuxWV 137*

Dieterich Buxtehude

- *at the sound of the bells, all stand*

Hymn 381 *Thy strong word did cleave the darkness*



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy speak - ing
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as night and
 3 Thy strong word be - speaks us right - eous; bright with thine own
 4 God the Fa - ther, Light - Cre - a - tor, to thee laud and



it was done; for cre - a - ted light we thank thee,
 deep as death, broke the light of thy sal - va - tion,
 ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward glo - ry,
 hon - or be; to thee, Light of Light be - got - ten,



while thine or - dered sea - sons run: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 breathed thine own life - giv - ing breath: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 and our lives our hopes con - fess: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly; Ho - ly Spi - rit, Light - Re -



lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 veal - er, glo - ry, glo - ry be to thee; mor - tals, an - gels,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 now and ev - er praise the Ho - ly Tri - ni - ty.

The Alleluias in stanzas 1-3 may be sung antiphonally.

Words: Martin H. Franzman (1907-1976)

Music: *Ton-y-Botel*, Thomas John Williams (1869-1944)

87. 87. D

Opening Acclamation

celebrant
 Bless-ed be the one, ho-ly and liv-ing God.
people
 Glo-ry to God for ev-er and ev-er.

BCP • Book of Common Prayer
S • Service music found at the front of the hymnal
LEVAS • Lift Every Voice and Sin
WLP • Wonder, Love and Praise
The people's responses are indicated in bold type.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

Song of Praise • LEVAS 241

Gloria in excelsis

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
 peace to His peo-ple on earth.
 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther,
 we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
 praise you for your glo-ry.
 Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly
 Son of the Fa-ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world: have mer-cy on us:

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our

prayer. For

you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High,

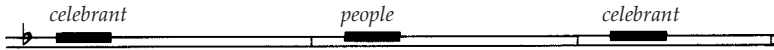
Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the

glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Music: David Hurd (b. 1950), *Intercession Mass*
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LITURGY OF THE WORD

Collect for the Third Sunday after Pentecost

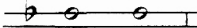


God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may do them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



A - men.

- *all be seated*

First Reading Genesis 3:8-15

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He

said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.
I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 150 • *sung by all*



- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;
LORD, ¹hear my ¹voice; *
let your ears consider well the ¹voice of my ¹supplication.
- 2 If you, LORD, were to note what is ¹done a ¹miss, *
O ¹Lörd, ¹who could ¹stand?
- †3 For there is for ¹giveness with ¹you; *
— ¹therefore you ¹shall be ¹feared.
- 4 I wait for the LORD; my ¹söul ¹waits for him; *
in his ¹wörd ¹is my ¹hope.
- 5 My soul waits for the LORD,
more than ¹watchmen for the ¹morning, *
more than ¹watchmen ¹for the ¹morning.
- 6 O Israel, ¹wait for the ¹LORD, *
for with the ¹LÖRD ¹there is ¹mercy;
- 7 With him there is ¹plenteous re ¹demption, *
and he shall redeem ¹Israel from ¹all their ¹sins.

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

So we do not lose heart. Even though

our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 391 *Before the Lord's eternal throne*

1 Be - fore the Lord's e - ter - nal throne, ye
2 His sov - ereign power with - out our aid formed
3 We are his peo - ple, we his care, our
4 We'll crowd thy gates with thank - ful songs, high
5 Wide as the world is thy com - mand, vast

1 na - tions, bow with sa - cred joy; know that the Lord is
2 us of clay and gave us breath; and when like wan - dering
3 souls, and all our mor - tal frame: what last - ing hon - ors
4 as the heaven our voic - es raise; and earth, with her ten
5 as e - ter - ni - ty thy love; firm as a rock thy

1 God a - lone; he can cre - ate, and he des - troy.
2 sheep we strayed, he saved us from the power of death.
3 shall we rear, al - might - y Ma - ker, to thy Name?
4 thou - sand tongues, shall fill thy courts with sound - ing praise.
5 truth must stand, when roll - ing years shall cease to move.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 100
Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, 1690;
harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

LM

Gospel Mark 3:20-35

The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The crowd came together again, so that Jesus and his disciples could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

"Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"— for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Sermon The Rev. Dr. Robert Willis,
Dean Emeritus of Canterbury Cathedral

Nicene Creed • BCP 358 • *all stand*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People • Form VI • BCP 392

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

• *silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Terry our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation and for those on the Cathedral prayer list, Jim & Dean, TJ, Betty Banton, Kitten Lawless, Robert Huffman, Nancy Otto, Donna Pottinger, Mitzi Schatz, Joy Stultz

• *silence*

• *the people may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life especially for those celebrating birthdays, Bethany Bradley and Bethaney Curry, and anniversaries, Matthew & Hannah Bradley, John & Linda Kiesel, Rob & Barbara Beard, Bill Bippus & Edgar Wallace, Mike DaRif & Becky Norris and Vance & Bobbie Fritton.

- *silence*
- *the people may add their own petitions*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

- *silence*
- *the people may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

- *silence may be kept*

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution • *declared by the celebrant*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

The Peace • *all greet one another in the name of the Lord*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Dean's Welcome

LITURGY OF THE ALTAR

Offertory Anthem *O how amiable*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

O how amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she
may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be always praising thee.
The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us: prosper thou the
work of our hands upon us.
O prosper thou our handiwork.
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from
the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



You can make a gift in support of the Cathedral's
ministry online by scanning the QR code or going to
<https://abundant.co/christchurchlouky/give>

Eucharistic Prayer I • Enriching Our Worship

celebrant peo-ple

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

celebrant peo-ple

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

peo-ple

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus WLP 850

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, —
 hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. — * Bless - ed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. — Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na,
 Ho - san - na in the high - est, the high - est. —

Setting: Jonathan Dimmock (b. 1957), from *Missa Appalachia*
 © 1996 Jonathan Dimmock

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

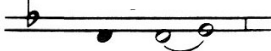
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

The Great Amen



A - men.

The Lord's Prayer • BCP 364 • *contemporary version*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

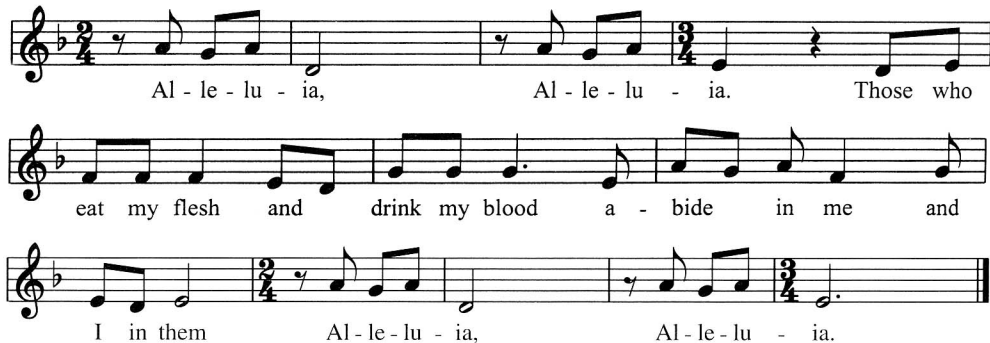
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Fraction Anthem • WLP 873



The musical score is written on three staves in G major. The first staff begins with a 2/4 time signature, followed by a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Those who". The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: "eat my flesh and drink my blood a - bide in me and". The third staff concludes with lyrics: "I in them Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia." and ends with a double bar line.

Invitation to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

- *any baptized person from any Christian tradition who wishes to encounter the Real Presence of the Risen Christ in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood is welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you wish to learn more about the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, please speak with a priest or deacon following the liturgy.*
- *gluten free wafers are available; as you prepare to receive bread indicate your preference to the priest*
- *if you would like to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest*

An Act of Spiritual Communion • *for those attending virtually*

Jesus, my Savior, I ask you to come into my heart and fill me with your love. Although I cannot physically join with others to celebrate the Eucharist today, I desire to offer my thanksgivings and prayers in union with all who worship you, wherever they may be. And although I cannot receive you now sacramentally in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, still I desire to receive your body and blood spiritually and feed on your love, that I may be united with you and with all your people in one communion and fellowship, your mystical body the church, now and ever more. Amen.

Communion Hymn 445 *Praise to the Holiest in the height*

1 Praise to the Ho - liest in the height, and in the
 2 O lov - ing wis - dom of our God! When all was
 3 O wis - est love! that flesh and blood, which did in
 4 and that the high - est gift of grace should flesh and
 5 Praise to the Ho - liest in the height, and in the

1 depth be praise; in all his words most
 2 sin and shame, a sec - ond Ad - am
 3 Ad - am fail, should strive a - fresh a -
 4 blood re - fine: God's pres - ence and his
 5 depth be praise; in all his words most

1 won - der - ful, most sure in all his ways!
 2 to the fight and to the res - cue came.
 3 gainst the foe, should strive, and should pre - vail;
 4 ve - ry self, and es - sence all - di - vine.
 5 won - der - ful, most sure in all his ways!

Words: John Henry Newman (1801-1890), alt.
 Music: *Gerontius*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

CM

- *all stand; said by all*

Prayer after Communion

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

Concluding Hymn 594 *God of grace and God of glory*

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple pour thy power;
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as - sail his ways!
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to thy con - trol;
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore;

crown thine an - cient Church's sto - ry; bring her bud to glo - rious flower.
 From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise:
 shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in things and poor in soul.
 let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more.

Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
 grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age for the liv - ing of these
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -

hour, days, goal, dore, for the goal, dore, the fac - ing of this hour. for the liv - ing of these days. lest we miss thy king-dom's goal. serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969), alt.
 Music: *Cwm Rhondda*, John Hughes (1873-1932)

87. 87. 877

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Adagio*

Dieterich Buxtehude

serving today . . .

The Rev. Dr. Robert Willis, *celebrant*

The Rev. Dr. Eva Markham, *deacon*

Dr. Mark Kano, *choir director*

Denise Whittington, *organist*

Nick Teale, Randy Peters, *lectors*

Tim Tice, *intercessor*

Mike Foster, Mike DaRif, Carolyn Van Zant, Marilyn Werst, *chalice bearers*

Bill Shelton, Susan Torok, Kim McDaniel, *acolytes*

Linda Sue White, *altar guild*

Lea Ann Garbrough, Kirt Jacobs, Mike DaRif, *greeters/ushers*

Patsy Melton, *bell ringer*

Frazier Marsh, *live stream*



*... as for
me and my
household,
we will
serve the
Lord*

Joshua 24:15

Christ Church Cathedral Land Acknowledgement

Christ Church Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky gathers and stands on land which has been home, for over 11,000 years, to primarily Shawnee, Cherokee, Osage, Haudenosaunee Seneca, Hopewell and Adena peoples. Today we acknowledge the role our Church has played in colonialism's devastating legacy of death, stolen lands, dehumanizing removals, and forced assimilation of native people. We repent of our complicity in perpetuating the dominance of white European culture, even to the present day. We seek forgiveness. We honor the original peoples of this land and the presence of native people still living in Kentucky. We honor with respect their Elders, past, present, and future, their traditions, and the land itself. We commit to listen, learn, and walk in love.

The Very Rev. Dr. Robert Willis DL KStJ, Dean Emeritus of Canterbury

Robert Willis is a priest in the Church of England and is known for being a theologian, hymn-writer and pastor. He served as Dean of Canterbury, running the mother church of the Anglican Communion and the King's School, Canterbury, (the world's oldest school, founded by St Augustine in 597) and advising three archbishops, government and the crown from 2001 to 2022.

During this time he raised the sums needed to undertake and complete the most



extensive restoration of the cathedral's buildings – a complex which covers 28 acres in the centre of the ancient city of Canterbury, these “precincts”

are a sacred, holy space for people to escape from the pressures of the outside world and feel something of the spiritual heritage which dates back over 1400 years; he oversaw the care of its skilled workforce and volunteers who numbered, including the school, nearly 1500 people, and a undertook a huge outreach which incorporated not just the diocese but the local population as a whole.

He was daily involved in the running of the school and oversaw its own expansion and the addition of 5 further schools including two for the under-served

communities in the county, an international school and a school in China and one in Cambodia – all of which have the ethos of social justice, public service and of breaking down boundaries, be they social or cultural or otherwise.

Reconciliation and bridge-building have been the hallmark of Dean Robert's ministry and in Canterbury he used the hotel and conference centre which he built to host groups, including bishops and seminarians from the Anglican Communion, to bring people closer together.

Prior to Canterbury he spent nine years as Dean of Hereford (where he undertook extensive renovations, saved the Mappa Mundi from being sold off and the Chain Library and secured the finances to safeguard both) and before that similar works for five years as Vicar of Sherborne Abbey.

A leading member of the General Synod for over thirty years and with oversight of the Deans' and Provosts' council of England for two decades, he has also worked on numerous regional, national and international boards – including in the US, Canada, China, Eastern Africa, New Zealand... – of charities and associations ranging from the arts and music to homelessness and healthcare.

He is most recently well-known for the broadcasts of Morning Prayer that he and his civil-partner of 22 years, Fletcher Banner, made every day for 26 months during the COVID-19 pandemic which attracted and still attracts millions of views from all over the world of people of all faiths and none (www.youtube.com/@GardenCongregation), helping people through those dark years

and bringing many back to faith whilst showcasing the beautiful gardens both of the Cathedral and the Deanery which Fletcher had spent many years improving and enhancing to improve their beauty and use but also their biodiversity – conservation and wildlife are close to their hearts and have resulted in Dean Robert being nicknamed “the Green Dean” by many.

The Deanery was opened up to various programmes through the year run by Fletcher and, though being their private home and the gift of the crown (deans of medieval cathedrals are employed by the crown and sit outside of the church and at the same level as the (arch)bishops) – they received over 25,000 visitors through the house and gardens each year – in addition to managing the 1.5 million visitors to the cathedral each year.

Dean Robert has received doctorates from various universities, including Yale, a deputy lieutenancy and the rare Freedom of the City of Canterbury in recognition for his work for the people of the city and the wider county of Kent, the Cross of St Augustine from Archbishop Rowan Williams and the gift of a relic of St Gregory the Great from His Holiness in recognition and thanks for his work in ecumenism and reconciliation.

On January 23, 2023 he was named Dean Emeritus of Canterbury by Archbishop

Justin Welby and since then both he and Fletcher have been working as ambassadors for the church and various charities all over the world, most especially the Episcopal church in the US – with which they have worked for the past two decades – as well as the Church of Canada and the Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain. After more than 40 years as chair of major boarding schools and sitting in senior roles in various universities as well as being a Fellow of the Royal School of Church Music and Sub Dean (and Knight) of the Order of St John nationally with its vital work in training cadets in healthcare, education is very important to Dean Robert and he still represents various organisations both in the UK and overseas. A keen musician and writer he is currently working on various commissions and as a keen supporter of the arts and architecture, having spent decades on national advisory boards and having been awarded fellowships in both disciplines, he is also frequently called upon to judge and adjudicate on different artistic and building projects, as he is also to banks and blue chip companies due to his experience of working on various ethics boards.

He and Fletcher are still running the daily ministry of the Garden Congregation which they started in 2020 and which has brought them so much joy as they meet hundreds of new people each week, both virtually and in person.



Christ Church Cathedral

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Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky

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