

# Missionary God; Missional Church

**The Analogy of of God's Mission:  
Becoming a Mission-shaped Diocese**

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# Contexts & Constants

- Phyllis Tickle – every 500 years big change (?Europe)
- Growth in confidence – *God* is in mission ('Acts'!)
- Engage the culture – facts and values; scientific worldview; and significance of religious domain
- Mission-shaped Church – communication & culture
- Change-making – governance and management
- Constants (A. Walls): Jesus; Connected to Israel, Global Community, Scripture, and Sacraments



# Mission-Shaped Diocese

- God in society, not only in church and/or personal faith
- New Chief Rabbi: vision to "transform communities" and "grow"; synagogues "are not merely places where people come to pray, but rather powerhouses of Jewish cultural, social, educational and religious activity"
- Built into the role description of all new bishops are the Five marks of mission and Three quinquennium goals
- The Three Ps (and the big Fourth P of Paraclesis)
- M-S Diocese in our Culture, Strategy and Structure



# Filled with the Fullness of God

- **14** For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, **15** from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. **16** I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, **17** and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. **18** I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, **what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19** and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be **filled with all the fullness of God. 20** Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, **21** to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen. **(Ephesians 3:14-21)**



# 'Fullness': Mission as sharing the overflow of the divine life

- Paul's prayer like Jesus' prayer in John 17
- To fill and to fulfill is a strong mission theme
- Images of mission – the fullness of life: vitality
- Father of all – global mission: to share God's life
- God can and does act – verses practical atheism
- God acts with us through Christ by the Spirit
- God acts with us personally, corporately,  
globally



# Deep, Wide, Long, High: Sharing the love of God

- Deep: with Jesus and his mission
- Wide: personal, corporate, public
- Long: strategic and well resourced
- High: Spirit of the Ascended Lord

