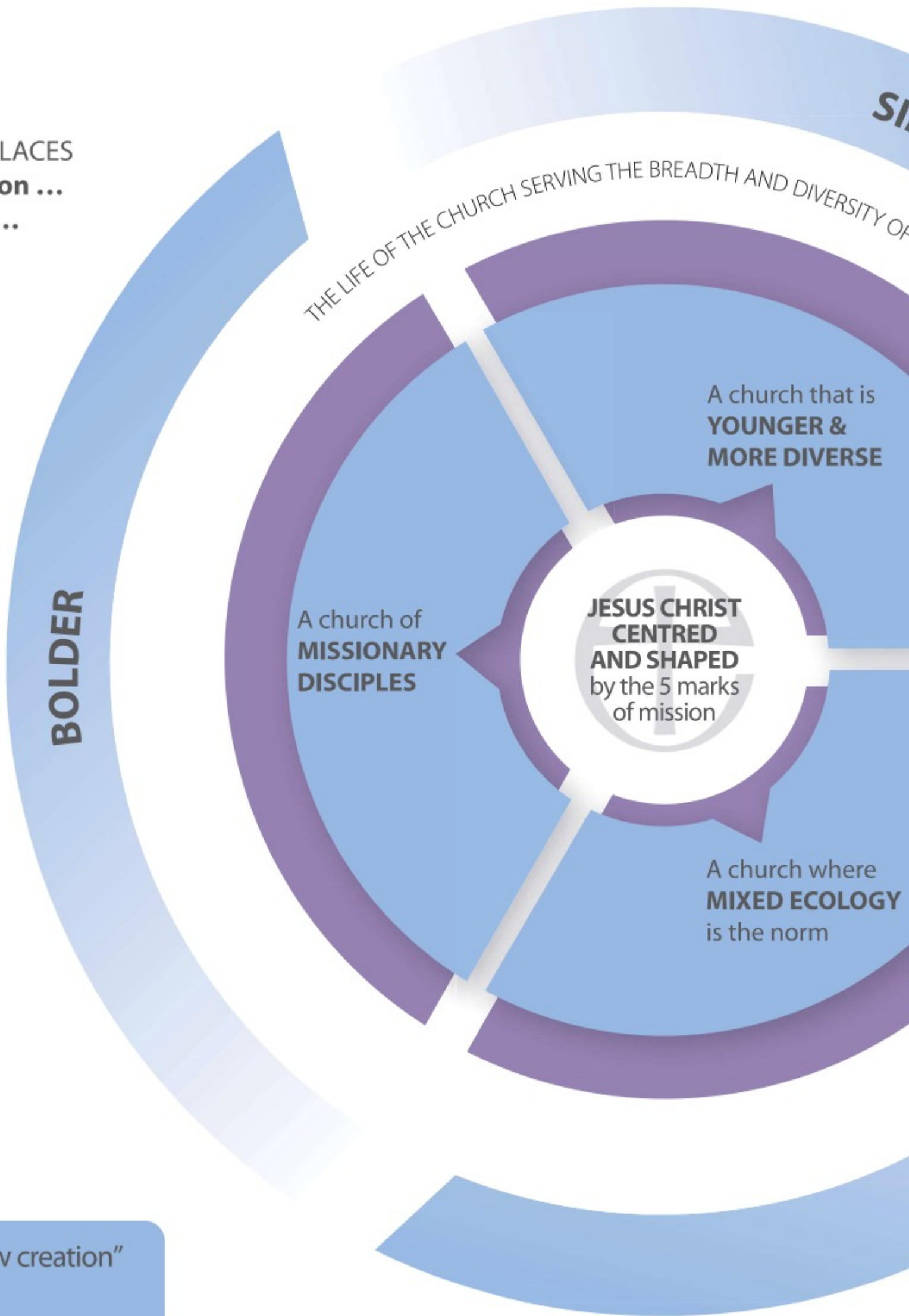


The heart of the vision for the Church of England is **to be a Church that is Jesus Christ centred and Jesus shaped.**

The picture below illustrates the shape of the vision and strategic priorities from the period of consultation with hundreds of people who reflect the breadth and diversity of the Church of England.

**A VISION FOR
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
IN THE 2020s**

A CHURCH FOR ALL PEOPLE IN ALL PLACES
... a **Christian vision for every person ...**
... a **Christian vision for the world ...**



"If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation"
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

Simpler, humbler, bolder are virtues we believe God is calling from us at this point in our history. They run through the vision and shape all we do and all that we are.

- **Simpler** because we are not as big a church as we used to be, and the work of the simplification agenda has been an important feature of synodical life in recent years.
- **Humbler** because we are facing our failures, and this is not easy.
- **Bolder** because the love of Christ compels us. We have a gospel to proclaim, and we live and minister in a world of much pain and confusion.

[Read the full commentary on Jesus centred and Jesus shaped by the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, here.](#)

To help us achieve these strategic priorities, we are looking at bringing simplicity and coherence to our governance structures, and the practical ways the Church is organised and gets things done that enables local churches to flourish.

[Read more of the Emerging Church of England programme.](#)

FAQs

What do we mean by simpler, humbler, bolder?

- A simpler Church, both in governance and structure, and in the way we live and share gospel
- A humbler Church, recognising our failings and working with others to serve the common good
- a bolder Church, energise and enthused by the good news of what God has done in Jesus Christ and sharing that with everyone

What are the Five Marks of Mission?

The phrase 'a Jesus shaped life' is borrowed from our sisters and brothers in the Anglican Communion, and puts the Five Marks of Mission at the centre of our life in Christ. They describe a vocation to be the ones who:

- tell the story of Jesus Christ
- teach the faith of Jesus Christ
- tend to the cares of the world
- transform the unjust structures of society
- treasure and safeguard the integrity of God's creation

[Marks of Mission \(anglicancommunion.org\)](#)

Links

- **Read:** [Vision and Strategy – address to General Synod](#), November 2021, by Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York
- **Read:** [Vision and Strategy – address to General Synod](#), July 2021, by Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York
- **Read:** [Update on progress – address to General Synod](#), February 2021, by Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York
- **Read:** [A Vision for the Church of England in the 2020s](#), 'Christ centred and Jesus shaped. Simpler, humbler, bolder' by Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York
- **Read:** [A theological reflection on our emerging vision and priorities](#) by Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford
- **Read:** [‘Simplicity, humility, and boldness’: Archbishop of York outlines ten-year plan for the C of E](#), Church Times, November 2020
- **Read:** [Renewal and Reform – a summary of progress and impact](#), April 2021

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