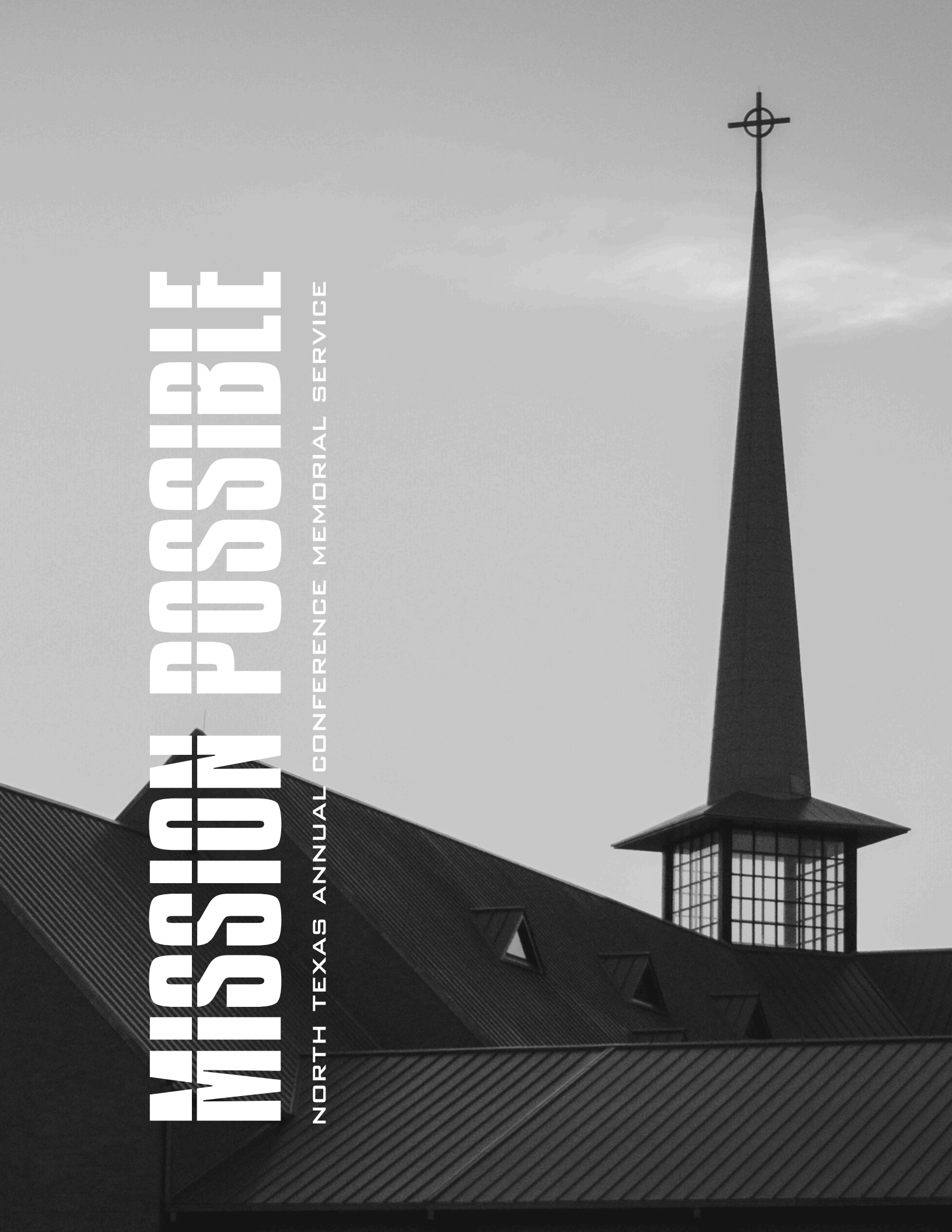


MISSION POSSIBLE

NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE MEMORIAL SERVICE



NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024

Memorial Service

First United Methodist Church Richardson

June 4, 2024

Please silence all cell phones as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

GATHERING MUSIC

Toccata on Amazing Grace

arr. Christopher Pardini

Dr. Hyun Lee, organist

There Was Jesus

Casey Beathard, Jonathan Smith,
Zach Williams

* CALL TO WORSHIP | Rev. David Magallanes-Coronado

We have gathered here to celebrate the lives of those who have served faithfully through the years and now share the triumph of Christ.

We affirm with praise and thanksgiving the goodness of our Lord.

Let us rejoice in God's presence with us, in death as in life,
among those who mourn as with those who now see Christ face to face.

In the midst of our grief we sing with joy, for God's love is over all that has been made.

Blessed be God's glorious name for ever.

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER | Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr.

LITANY OF THE SAINTS | Bishop Saenz

Bishop: Tender and compassionate God, we seek to know you through the hearing of your Word and pray that we may go beyond hearing to obeying, as shown by the faithful lives of your departed servants whom we honor today.

We know that they are precious in your eyes, worthy of your special attention and ours, for they served well in the task that you gave them. Grant that we may feel your presence as did the followers who knew Jesus in the breaking of the bread, and may we experience the fire within that sent them out to share good news, our mystery of faith:

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

In the company of all these saints, we look to Jesus, the Risen Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. In his holy name, we remember and name before you now those whose faith strengthened our own:

Rev. Dr. Charles "Chuck" Aaron Jr.
Rev. James D. Abel
Rev. Marilyn Margaret Atkinson
Rev. Dr. Rodney Jeremiah Booker
Dr. Dede W. Casad
Rev. Lois Geiger Cooper
Rev. Robert O. Cooper
Mrs. Shirley Burns Cooper
Mrs. Janice Faye Cox
Mr. Wesley Earl Crawford
Rev. Vivian Joyce Crowson

Rev. Gloria Jeanne Davis
Rev. Gaither Lee Day
Mrs. Betty Flach
Mrs. Betty Lou Garrett
Pastor Edgar Wilson Halfast III
Mrs. Betty Ann Haney
Rev. Herbert Harrell Hicks
Rev. Harry Eugene Houseman
Pastor Ralph "Jerry" I. Mahle
Rev. Carl "Corky" M. McGee
Mrs. Elizabeth Maureen McKnight

Rev. Charles Jack Meyers
Mrs. Carolyn Odom
Rev. Kwang Bae Park
Rev. Joe Dale Shafer
Mrs. Dixie Freeman Simpson
Mrs. Chong Yul Son
Mrs. Patricia Jane Spencer
Mrs. Marty T. Stokes
Rev. Fredric Lee Utz
Mrs. Mary Pauline Yarbrough
Rev. Linn Caraway Zink

and all others whom we hold in our hearts and name aloud to God now. Let us pray together:

**O God of both the living and the dead,
we praise your holy name for all your servants who have faithfully lived and died.
We thank you for the sacred ties that bind us to those unseen
who encompass us as a cloud of witnesses.
We pray that, encouraged by their example and strengthened by their fellowship,
we may be diligent followers
and that nothing will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

MEMORIAL RESPONSE

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

* SCRIPTURE READING | John 6:60-69 | Rev. Raegan Gilliland

SERMON | "You Can Have All the Rest" | Rev. Dr. Stan Copeland

SPECIAL MUSIC

Give Me Jesus

Jeremy Camp

HONORING THE LEGACY OF MINISTRY AS THE NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Bishop: Join me now in a prayer to honor the legacy of ministry as the North Texas Annual Conference. Gracious and Loving God, we gather in your presence with hearts full of gratitude, lifting our voices in thanksgiving for the legacy of ministry within the North Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. We celebrate the countless lives touched and transformed through the faithful service of pastors, leaders, and congregations who have dedicated themselves to your work.

We thank you, God.

Lord, we honor the rich history of this conference, remembering those who have gone before us, paving the way with their devotion, wisdom, and unwavering faith. We give thanks for the pastors who have shepherded their flocks with love and grace, guiding them through times of joy and sorrow. For the laity who have tirelessly worked to support and sustain their communities, we live today in the fruits of their faithfulness.

God, we honor your work through your saints.

We acknowledge the impact of mission work, both near and far, that has welcomed your kingdom and brought hope to the hopeless, comfort to the afflicted, and justice to the oppressed. Through acts of kindness, advocacy, and service, your love has been made manifest in myriad ways.

Let your kingdom come, your will be done!

As we honor this legacy, we also look to the future with hope and anticipation. Empower us, O God, to continue the work that has been entrusted to us. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that we might be bold and courageous in our witness, innovative in our ministry, and compassionate in our service.

Lead us to walk in your ways!

Guide the leaders of the North Texas Annual Conference with wisdom and discernment as we step into a future unafraid. May they lead with integrity, vision, and a deep commitment to your will. Bless the congregations, that they may flourish and be beacons of your light in their communities.

Our hope is in you, O Lord!

With hearts of gratitude, united in purpose and faith, may all God's people say:

Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN

I Love to Tell the Story / It Is Well

HANKEY / IT IS WELL

WORSHIP LEADERS

Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. | North Texas Annual Conference
Rev. Dr. Stan Copeland | Senior Pastor, Lovers Lane UMC
Rev. David Magallanes-Coronado | Associate Pastor, Christ UMC Farmers Branch
Rev. Raegan Gilliland | Associate Pastor, Christ UMC Plano

MUSIC LEADERS

Rev. DeDe Jones | Lovers Lane UMC
Rafe Grigar | Lovers Lane UMC
Krystal Stroud | First UMC Denton

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