



**THE COMMUNITY OF ST. PHILIP
AT WORSHIP**

SEPTEMBER 12, 2025

A SERVICE OF WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION

IN MEMORY OF

THOMAS STEWART COFFMAN

DECEMBER 13, 1934 - AUGUST 29, 2025

ORGAN PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL

Old Hundredth

Bill Drennen, Piper

OPENING SENTENCES

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

✠ HYMN 307 [\(see page 5\)](#)

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

✠ PRAYER

Eternal God,
our strength and our comfort,
our hope and our help,
your love cares for us in life
and watches over us in death.
We praise you for the great company
of all those who have kept the faith,
finished their race,
and who now rest from their labor.
Especially we thank you for Stew,
whom you have now received into your presence.
We are grateful for all he gave us,
for the memories that will abide with us,
and for the assurance that he lives forever
in the peace and joy of your unending love.
Take from us now our regrets and sorrows,
and grant us your grace, we pray,
that as we face the mystery of death
we may see the light of eternity,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

silent prayer

Holy One, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

✠ DECLARATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

Psalm 23

Psalm 121

Psalm 139:1-18

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 223 [\(see page 6\)](#)

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

HAMBURG

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

Ephesians 2:4-10, 17-22

Colossians 3:14-17

Romans 8 31-35, 37-39

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

SOLO

Steal Away

traditional

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name.
 Thy Kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread,
 and forgive us our debts,
 as we forgive our debtors.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil;
 for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power,
 and the glory forever. Amen.

✦ HYMN 366 [\(see page 7\)](#)

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

✦ COMMENDATION

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Mariachi Tradición de Jalisco

De Colorés
Cucurrucucú Paloma
La Paloma Blanca

✦ BLESSING

✦ RECESSIONAL

The Lord's My Shepherd

Ian Martin, Piper

**Following the service, everyone is invited to a reception
 in the Gathering Area adjacent to the Sanctuary.**

Worship Leaders

The Rev. Dr. John W. Wurster | The Rev. Dr. Fairfax F. Fair
 Matthew Dirst, organist | Julia Fox, soloist

*Pipers Bill Drennen and Ian Martin are from the Houston Highlanders.
 This pipe band rehearses on the St. Philip campus.*



Presbyterian (USA) pastor, Rev. Dr. Thomas Stewart Coffman died on August 29, 2025, in Houston, Texas, from complications of old age. He was born December 13, 1934, in Omaha, Nebraska and moved to Port Arthur, Texas with his family, where his father served as YMCA Secretary, when he was eight years old. He was the son of Carroll Thomas Coffman and Margaret Stewart Coffman.

Stewart served 113 congregations and 40,000 members in the Houston area as General Presbyter of the Presbytery of New Covenant, from 1999 up to his retirement in 2003. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas A&M in 1956, and a Bachelor of Divinity degree from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago in 1960. After studying at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, he went on to receive his Master of Theology degree in 1977, and Doctor of Ministry degree from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, Texas, in 1979.

Ordained as a Presbyterian minister July 24, 1960, Stewart served five churches in Texas, New Mexico and Wisconsin over a forty-year period. He was also the Associate Executive Presbyter and Pastor to church professionals at Grace Presbytery in the Dallas area for nearly ten years before becoming General Presbyter. After retiring, Stewart served on several community boards in the Pearland area and became a Master Naturalist. One of his most noteworthy projects included collecting used Christmas trees to help build up sand dunes along Texas beaches.

He treasured his years in Aggieland and was a proud member of the Aggie Corps of Cadets, about which he loved to recount stories, including encounters with rival schools as well as his assignment to protect Reveille, the school's mascot. Stewart was a history major and was an avid historian and researcher, who was a member of several Civil War roundtables.

Upon his demise, there were at least 20 business cards in his wallet from history museums he had visited all over the United States and Scotland. Stewart led several church groups on history tours of the Scottish Reformation in Scotland. He loved his work as a pastor and always tried to emphasize that the center of the church is its people. He valued mission work at home and abroad. He was no stranger to grass-roots mission work, and spoke of growing up in Omaha, Nebraska and then in Port Arthur, Texas, where his parents, who were very involved in the community, would take in children who had no place to go. Many nights, he would come home and find some kid in his bed, so would go sleep on the family couch.

Stewart was known for his love of people and nature, and his "devilish sense of humor." He is survived by his daughter, Ann Frautschi, son-in-law, Christopher Frautschi, and granddaughters Amy, Paloma, Lily and Shirley Ann. He was preceded by his parents, his brother Robert Paul Coffman, his wife Shirley Woodell Coffman in 2023, and his daughter Amy Elizabeth Coffman in 1979.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to the compassionate nurses and aides on the 2nd floor Healthcare at Bayou Manor Healthcare, the gracious and responsive staff from At Your Side Home Care, and the fabulous, professional Staff on the 9th Floor, Alkek 9 Unit at Methodist Hospital, also, to Harbor Hospice and Vantage Hospice, for their care and sensitivity.

HYMN 307

God of Grace and God of Glory

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

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

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

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

TEXT: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

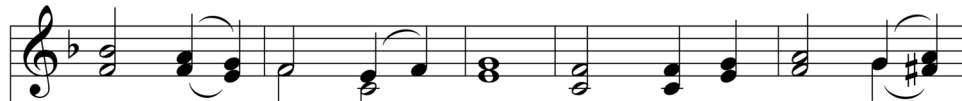
CWM RHONDDA
 8.7.8.7.8.7.7

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HYMN 223

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross


1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1707
 MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1824

HAMBURG
 LM

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HYMN 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.