



# Episcopal Church of the Resurrection

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 5, 2026 10:00 a.m.

917 Pond Road, Loudon, TN 37774  
865.986.2390

[www.episcopalloudon.com](http://www.episcopalloudon.com)



GLORIFYING GOD BY

REFRESHING SOULS | BRIDGING COMMUNITIES | ENGAGING PEOPLE IN SERVICE

Good morning! We're so glad you chose to be here at Resurrection today. Whether you're here for the first time, or are a life-long member, Resurrection is a hopeful, healing, transformation-minded kind of place, a place where everyone is welcome and can grow their relationship with God and with one another.

If you are here for the first time (or if you just haven't gotten around to it yet), please fill out a pew card and put it in the offering plate to let us know you were here. To receive our weekly email bulletin, be sure to include your email address. Also, let us know if you would like to connect with our parish life and ministries; we're happy to help you find your spot!

Our services follow *The Book of Common Prayer*, the red book in your pew rack. If you'd like to use the book to follow the service instead of this order of service booklet, we begin on page 355. Unless otherwise marked, our hymns are from *The Hymnal 1982* (blue book). A hymn noted "S-xxx" is part of the service music, found at the front of the hymnal, appearing before the regular congregational hymns begin. For example, S-280 (The Gloria) is found before hymn I.

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To learn more about Resurrection, check out [www.EpiscopalLoudon.com](http://www.EpiscopalLoudon.com),  
email us at [Office@EpiscopalLoudon.com](mailto:Office@EpiscopalLoudon.com), or  
find us on Facebook or Instagram.

Fill out a visitor card or email [Office@EpiscopalLoudon.com](mailto:Office@EpiscopalLoudon.com) to subscribe to our weekly church email, *The Parish Tidings*, for all the latest information from Resurrection.

If you can't make it here in person, join us at 10:00, live on Facebook,  
[Facebook.com/episcopalloudon](https://www.facebook.com/episcopalloudon) or on YouTube [@ChurchoftheResurrectionLoudon](https://www.youtube.com/@ChurchoftheResurrectionLoudon).

# Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

## Holy Eucharist, Rite II

### Service of the Word

Prelude     *O beautiful for spacious skies*     Hymnal 719

Entrance Hymn     *Please stand as able.*  
    *Blest be the King whose coming*     Hymnal 74

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity     BCP 355

*Celebrant*     Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People*     **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.  
Amen.**

*All*     **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.**

The Gloria     (Spoken at 8:00. Sung at 10:30.)     Hymnal S-280

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **The First Lesson: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67**

*Lector* A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The servant said to Laban, “I am Abraham’s servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master’s wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, ‘You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father’s house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.’

“I came today to the spring, and said, ‘O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, “Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,” and who will say to me, “Drink, and I will draw for your camels also”—let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master’s son.’

“Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, ‘Drink, and I will also water your camels.’ So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom Milcah bore to him.’ So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master’s kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.”

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, “Will you go with this man?” She said, “I will.” So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham’s servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, “May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.” Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, “Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?” The servant said, “It is my master.” So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.

Lector        The Word of the Lord.

People        **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 45:1-8** *Eruclavit cor meum?*

BCP 647

Lector        We will read the Psalm responsively.

*Congregation reads bold lines.*

“Hear, O daughter; consider and listen closely;\*

**forget your people and your father’s house.**

The king will have pleasure in your beauty;\*

**he is your master; therefore do him honor.**

The people of Tyre are here with a gift;\*

**the rich among the people seek your favor.”**

All glorious is the princess as she enters;\*

**her gown is cloth-of-gold.**

In embroidered apparel she is brought to the king;\*

**after her the bridesmaids follow in procession.**

With joy and gladness they are brought,\*

**and enter into the palace of the king.**

“In place of fathers, O king, you shall have sons;\*

**you shall make them princes over all the earth.**

I will make your name to be remembered from one generation to another;\*

**therefore nations will praise you for ever and ever.”**

## **The Second Lesson: Romans 7:15-25a**

*Lector* A reading from the Letter to the Romans.

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

*Please stand as able.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say (verses 1-2)*

Hymnal 692

## **The Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to the crowd, “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

“For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

“At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sequence Hymn

*I heard the voice of Jesus say (verse 3)*

Hymnal 692

**Sermon**

The Rev. Canon Michael Spear-Jones

**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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**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 and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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.**

## The Prayers of the People Form VI

BCP 392

*Please assume a posture of prayer, whether standing, kneeling, or sitting as able.*

*The Leader and People pray responsively.*

*Intercessor* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

*People* **For our families, friends, neighbors, & for those who are alone.**

*Intercessor* For this community, the nation, and the world;

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

*Intercessor* For the just and proper use of your creation;

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

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

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

*Intercessor* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

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

*Intercessor* For Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; and Brian our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

*People* **For all who serve God in his Church.**

*Intercessor* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation,

**We pray especially for Mark S., the Hennessy family, Bill & Martha F., Jacking & Russ C., Jeanette, Walter, Vicky & Dave, & all who are in pain or distress.**

*The People may add their own petitions, silently or aloud.*

*Intercessor* Hear us, Lord;

*People* **For your mercy is great.**

*Celebrant* O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

## **The Confession and Absolution**

*Silence is held for individual confession before we say the Confession together.*

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

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

## **The Peace**

Brief Announcements

*Please stand as able.*

# **The Holy Communion**

## **Offertory Music**

*Father, we thank Thee who hast planted*

Hymnal 302

**Doxology** (Spoken at 8:00. Sung together at 10:30.)

Hymnal 380, verse 3

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Celebrant* For all things come from you, O Lord;  
*People* **and of your own have we given you.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

*Sursum Corda* (Lift Up Your Hearts)

Spoken at 8:00. Sung at 10:30

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you,

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing (say) this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus (Spoken at 8:00. Sung at 10:30.)

Hymnal S-129

**Holy, holy, holy**

**Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Celebrant* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

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

*Celebrant* We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

**AMEN.** (Spoken at 8:00. Sung at 10:30.)

Hymnal S-146

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
*All* **The Lord's Prayer** BCP 364

## The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread and a period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleuia, Christ, our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Fraction Hymn (Spoken at 8:00. Sung at 10:30.)

Hymnal S-163

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*We encourage you to come forward to receive Holy Communion as you feel comfortable. Remain seated until the usher directs you forward. After receiving communion, return to your seat by the side aisle. so that traffic flows one way. If you would prefer communion be brought to you at your seat, please let an usher know and, as always, we will be happy to do so. If you prefer not to receive communion, you may come forward along with those receiving communion. Please cross your arms over your chest to show that you prefer a blessing.*

Communion Hymn

*(congregation, please join choir in singing)*

*O Master, let me walk with Thee*

Hymnal 660

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP 365

**All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings § The Blessing

Recessional Hymn

*Jesus Shall Reign*

Hymnal 544

The Dismissal

Postlude

*God bless America*

# Parish Announcements, Prayers & Thanksgivings

Today's altar flowers  
are given by  
**Andy and Judy Hadjian**  
in recognition of  
their 38<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

## Rector Search

Anyone interested in serving on the Search Committee for our next rector should email his or her name to Bonnie by July 12, ([SeniorWarden@EpiscopalLoudon.com](mailto:SeniorWarden@EpiscopalLoudon.com)). For further information, please speak to any Vestry member or read the article in the June 26 *Parish Tidings*.

## August 9

**Ice Cream Social** at 4 p.m.

## Please join us in prayer for:

### Diocesan:

- July 5: For the Country (*BCP*, p. 820)  
For Sound Government (*BCP*, p. 821)
- July 12: For Young Persons, (*BCP*, p. 829)  
For Stewardship of Creation (*BCP*, p. 259)

### Region and World:

- July 5: The Anglican Church of South America
- July 6: The Diocese of Andaman and Car Nicobar Islands - The Church of North India (United)
- July 7: The Diocese of St. Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane - The Scottish Episcopal Church
- July 8: The Missionary Diocese of Central and South Angola - Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola
- July 9: The Diocese of Ankile - The Church of the Province of Uganda
- July 10: The Diocese of North Ankile - The Church of the Province of Uganda

## Our parish prayer list:

Mark S., Frank & Ruth Hennessy, Bill & Martha F., Lee R., Jackie & Russ C., Jeanette, Walter, R., & Vicky & Dave

## Continuing prayers for

Jim N., Brian E., Jim, Daphne, Rosemary O., the Hentchel family, Pat, Claire, Sandy, Rob & Sherry, Jim, Mel, Wayne; Diana N., Ashley; Kim E., Joe, Beverly, Grace, Virginia, and Johnny.

## Pray for our vestry leaders

Class of 2026: Alice A., Dianna S., Jenny L.  
Class of 2027: Bev B., Karen B., Mark H.  
Class of 2028: Holly P., Tom R., Bonnie S.  
Wardens: Bonnie S. and Mark H.;  
Treasurer: Sally L.

## July Birthdays

Bill Schwindt	July 5
Mark Smith	July 5
Ginny Tolbert	July 16
Judy Hadjian	July 17
Judith Kubesh	July 17
Pam McCoy	July 20
Beverly Cantine	July 23
Monty Ross	July 25
Janey Coombes	July 26
Thomas Fiebke Jr.	July 31

## July Anniversaries

Andy & Judy Hadjian	July 3
John & Pam McCoy	July 4
Keytha Graves & Drew Hawley	July 6
Steve Abercrombie & Nelda Griffith	July 29

# For Your Calendars

THIS WEEK

July 5	10:00 a.m.		
Acolyte	Jack Lefler	Altar Guild	Donna Jackson
Euch. Minister	Judy Egan	Flower Guild	Dianna Stimpson
Lector	Tony Adams	Organist	Jedediah Dahl
Ushers	Monty Ross & Art Stewartt	Celebrant	Michael Spear-Jones
Coffee Hour	Barbecue picnic - everyone		
Video	Bob Cantine	Offering Counters	Nelda Griffith & Ginny Tolbert
Chancellor	Peggy Rogers		

NEXT WEEK

July 12	8:00	10:30 a.m.	
Acolyte	Holly Pate	Mark Smith	Altar Guild
Euch. Minister	Judy Hadjian	Bonnie Smith	Flower Guild
Lector	Peggy Rogers	Tony Adams	Organist
Ushers	Jerry Ploeger	Drew Hawley & Keytha Graves	
Coffee Hour	Erllys Ploeger	Betsy Schwindt	Celebrant The Rev. Canon Michael Spear-Jones
Video		Bill Schwindy	Offering Counters
Chancellor	Carl Bye	Nelda Griffith	Alice Anderson & Bill Schwindt

## This Week at Resurrection

Sunday, July 5

In observance of America's 250th birthday, please join us today for a BBQ picnic following this service.

Sunday, July 12

The Rev. Dr. Marc Strong will be celebrating and preaching at both services.

The Worship Committee will meet at 11:45 a.m.

For pastoral needs, please contact the office at 865.986.2390 or [Office@EpiscopalLoudon.com](mailto:Office@EpiscopalLoudon.com) during regular hours.

For urgent after-hours pastoral needs, please call 865.242.9240. The chairs of the Pastoral Care Committee can be reached at this number and are able to connect you with pertinent resources.

Email Senior Warden Bonnie Smith:  
[SeniorWarden@EpiscopalLoudon.com](mailto:SeniorWarden@EpiscopalLoudon.com)

Email Junior Warden Mark Hennes:  
[JuniorWarden@EpiscopalLoudon.com](mailto:JuniorWarden@EpiscopalLoudon.com)

## Coming Soon @ Resurrection

Sunday, August 9

Save the date to enjoy our ice cream social at 4 p.m!

Tuesday, August 11

Join fellow parishioners in our annual sunrise hike in Cades Cove. We will overnight in Townsend on Tuesday, Aug. 11, and get up before dawn on Wednesday, Aug. 12, to enjoy a vehicle-free morning (cars not allowed) in Cades Cove. You will see plenty of wildlife and sunrise vistas stretching across a never-ending sky. Enjoy a beautiful sunrise, green mountains, golden fields, and the rare solitude at such a popular attraction. You have the option of a 4-, 7-, or 11-mile loop.

Contact Andy Hadjian at 865.235.8457. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall.

### Office Hours

Tuesdays & Fridays	10 am – 2 pm
Wednesdays	12 pm – 4 pm
Mondays & Thursdays	closed

# Art & Scripture Reflection

Giovanni Antonio Pellegrini (1675-1741). *Rebecca at the Well*, c. 1708-13, Oil on canvas, The National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London. Dimensions: 50.1 x 41.1 in. (127.3 x 104.5 cm). Bequeathed by Claude Dickason Rotch, 1962; Inventory No. NG6332 Curatorial Dept.: Main Collection.

<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/giovanni-antonio-pellegrini-rebecca-at-the-well>  
[Accessed June 30, 2026]

This picture captures a pivotal moment in a story taken from the Book of Genesis (24). Abraham had sent a servant to his homeland to find a bride for his son, Isaac. The servant came to a well, and waited for a woman kind enough to provide both him and his 10 camels with water: this woman would be the perfect bride for Isaac.

In the painting, an elegantly dressed woman looks calmly at the servant, her hand resting on a water pitcher – she seems only a little surprised at his request. This is Rebecca, Isaac's future wife, who drew water for the servant and all of his animals. The servant offers her several pieces of jewellery as a reward for her kindness, which spill out of the open box in front of him. Pellegrini has emphasised Rebecca's luminous, pale skin and the golden curls of her hair, which contrast with the tanned complexion of the balding servant.

Pellegrini's characteristic use of long, energetic brushstrokes and his confident application of paint can be appreciated in the bunched-up folds of Rebecca's blue dress and cream bodice and in the servant's deep red drapery, which add a vibrancy and rich texture to the scene. The handle of the pitcher has been described in just a few strokes, and the stone face in the bottom-right corner built up in loosely applied paint. The woman and the hairy camels just behind the main figures are also painted with freely applied strokes of paint, but in slightly paler tones and in thinner layers, giving the impression that they are further away. Thinner still are the layers of paint that describe the pinkish cloudy sky.

Pellegrini, the brother-in-law of Venetian portraitist Rosalba Carriera, travelled to England in 1708 and established himself as one of the most sought-after decorative painters in Europe. He stayed for five years, and this picture was probably painted during that time. Shortly after he travelled to Düsseldorf, where he was commissioned to produce a series of large decorative paintings. A preliminary sketch for one of them is in the National Gallery's collection: *An Allegory of the Marriage of the Elector Palatine*.

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