***Isaiah 53:9 And they made His grave with the wicked – But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth.***

We had a blessed baptism this morning. Baptism symbolizes resurrection. Keith, in this public act of faith, you were immersed, buried, and rose, symbolizing resurrection. In Romans 6:3-4 Paul writes - *Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.* Keith, you now walk in newness of life, resurrected and walking with Jesus, no longer dead, but forever alive.

For the last several weeks, we’ve been drawing straight lines from Old Testament to New, knowing that our God is trustworthy, that what He promises either has happened or will happen. It may not happen in our timing or in our order, but it is perfect nonetheless. God told us throughout the Old Testament that Christ would come, walk among us, die for our transgressions, and rise again. And He did. Likewise, when He tells us that Christ will come again, He will.

This morning, we will draw one last straight line – straight to the tomb. Borrowed tomb, as it were, because Jesus had no need of a permanent tomb. Isaiah 53:9 starts *And they made His grave with the wicked.* No man took Christ’s life. He chose to die for my sins, your sins. John 10:17-18 *“Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.”* On the Cross, Jesus, when He knew all had been accomplished said It is finished. John 19:30 - *So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And bowing His head,* ***He gave up His spirit****.* He chose to die between the two thieves. He could have called angels, come down from the Cross, but He, sinless, chose to bear our sins. Mark 15:27 *With Him they also crucified two robbers, one on His right and the other on His left. So the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “And He was numbered with the transgressors.”* Yes, they made His grave with the wicked.

Isaiah 53:9 finishes *But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth.* In ancient Israel, the wealthy carved tombs into rock or used caves. But, we know our Savior was not wealthy. In fact, in Matthew 8:20 we read - *And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.”* If Jesus had nowhere to lay His head, it stands to reason He had nowhere to lay His body in a tomb. Yet, prophecy says He will be buried with the rich. Matthew 27:57-60 gives us our straight line - *Now when evening had come, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be given to him. When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed.* Jesus, crucified between the wicked, now buried in a rich man’s tomb. But rest assured, the tomb was only borrowed, because on the third day… that borrowed tomb was empty, that stone was rolled away, and our Savior had Risen And He lives today and prepares a place for His own.

This morning, do you know the Savior who frees us from death? Yea, though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we fear no evil – we have a Savior with us. Keith, someday when your eyes close in death, you will open them immediately alive on the other side. Baptism didn’t do it. Works don’t do it. Belief in Jesus did it. Christ saved you because you believed in Him.

If there is anyone here this morning that doesn’t have that assurance, come as we sing. This is the day we celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior. Make today the day of your belief and Salvation through Christ the Lord.