



The logo for Northdale Lutheran Church & School. It features a stylized cross with a sunburst above it, positioned over the word "Northdale". Below "Northdale" is the word "Lutheran" in a cursive font, and at the bottom, "CHURCH & SCHOOL" in a small, sans-serif font.

NORTHDALÉ LUTHERAN CHURCH
TAMPA, FL
NOVEMBER 27, 2016

Northdale Lutheran Church and School

15709 MAPLEDALE BLVD

TAMPA, FL 33624

WWW.NORTHDALELUTHERAN.ORG

813-961-9195

"WE GROW IN GOD'S WORD SO THAT WE CAN GO WITH GOD'S WORD"

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Welcome to Northdale Lutheran! We are so glad you are joining us to proclaim what God has done and to sing his praises. Here the Lord also comes to us and strengthens us with his mighty Word. Take a moment to meet and greet those around you! Also:

- ❖ Restrooms are in the entrance and through the nursery hallway.
- ❖ Snacks and drinks are available for everyone after the second service.
- ❖ Help us be more welcoming by signing the guest registers in each row.

Please Note: To help keep the sanctuary as a quiet place of worship and meditation and for your convenience:

- ❖ A Quiet Room is available for the whole service for young children in the back of the sanctuary. Please make use of this room if your child becomes loud in worship.
- ❖ In the entryway, Busy Bags are provided for all the children during worship. There are coloring books, toys and snacks provided in each of the bags.



ADVENT

Advent is a Latin word that means “coming.” The season of Advent is the four week period before Christmas that the Church uses to remember the “coming” of the Christ. We celebrate that he came once as a baby in Bethlehem, and that he will come again at the end of time. The color for this season is blue. As we wait for our Savior to return, we do so with our eyes looking to the skies. The blue reminds us to keep looking to the sky for the return of our Savior.

ADVENT WREATH

The Advent Wreath is a combination of two very common symbols: light and the fir tree. From the early centuries of Christianity it has been the practice to represent Christ by a burning candle. The fir tree has a long history of religious use. No doubt the Advent Wreath was suggested by the Christmas tree.

It seems that the Advent Wreath originated a few hundred years ago among the Lutherans of eastern Germany. A wreath of evergreens, made in various sizes, was either suspended from the ceiling or placed on a table. Four candles representing the four Sundays of Advent were fastened to the wreath.

Eventually the use of the Advent Wreath became wide spread and moved also from the home into the church. The general symbolism of the Advent Wreath lies in the growing light of the wreath, increasing each week as we approach the birthday of Jesus, the Light of the world.

WORSHIP THEME

The Lord Jesus will come on the last day in all his power and majesty. When he comes his enemies will quake in fear of his judgment and his people will rejoice in his salvation. We stay alert and on guard as we keep watch for our Savior.

Notes for worship:

- ❖ All hymns from *Christian Worship (CW)* are in the red hymnals in front of you unless printed in this service folder.
- ❖ All hymns from *Christian Worship Supplement (CWS)* are in the blue hymn books on the end of each of the pews.
- ❖ Everything else will be printed in the worship folder.

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN, CW #4, "LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YOU MIGHTY GATES"

PLEASE STAND

INVOCATION

(The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.)

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves for the coming of our Savior. As we look forward to celebrating his birth at Bethlehem, we also look forward and prepare to meet him when he comes again in glory and calls us to our eternal home. We prepare for his coming as we confess our sins.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and wash away my guilt.**

M: People of God, hear the good news and be at peace. Our heavenly Father is gracious and forgiving. He sent Jesus into this world to save sinners like you and me. Through his death and resurrection your sins have been paid. Therefore, as a called servant of God's word in the name of Christ our Savior, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: Prepared to meet your King, rejoice now in his grace and sing his praise!

C: *(Sing CW #12, vs 1, 3, 4)*

**Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne And ev'ry voice a song.**

**He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of his grace To enrich the humble poor.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Your welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring with your beloved name.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

BE SEATED



THE WORD OF GOD*



THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 64:1-9

Jesus will come in grace to rescue those who are ready and to come in judgment on those who could not be bothered with him.

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains would tremble before you!

²As when fire sets twigs ablaze
and causes water to boil,

come down to make your name known to your enemies
and cause the nations to quake before you!

³For when you did awesome things that we did not expect,
you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.

⁴Since ancient times no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

⁵You come to the help of those who gladly do right,
who remember your ways.

But when we continued to sin against them,
you were angry.

How then can we be saved?

⁶All of us have become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;
we all shrivel up like a leaf,
and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

*The Word of God

"The reading of the Lessons is a highlight of a service. The spiritually hungry have come to be fed and nurtured and to drink from the waters of life. Knowing that 'faith comes from hearing the message,' God's people listen intently with attention aroused to be blessed by the hearing of God's Word." Christian Worship Manual

Who may ascend the hill of the LORD?*

Who may stand in his holy place?

He who has clean hands and a pure heart,*
he will receive blessing from God his Savior.

Refrain

Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors,*
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?*
The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors,*
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is he, this King of glory?*
The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

THE SECOND LESSON: I CORINTHIANS 1:3-9

To prepare for Jesus' coming, we cling to the gifts of forgiveness in the Word and then use our Christian gifts in service to one another to help them also prepare for his coming.

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— ⁶God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. ⁷Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly

wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ⁸He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia.

PLEASE STAND

THE GOSPEL LESSON: MARK 13:26-37

Those who are busy doing their own thing will not be ready for either his coming in grace or his coming in judgment. We eagerly prepare by repentant watching.

“At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.

²⁸ “Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. ²⁹Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

³² “But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. ³⁴It’s like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch.

³⁵ “Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. ³⁶If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. ³⁷What I say to you, I say to everyone: ‘Watch!’ ”

BE SEATED

SERMON HYMN, CW #1, "THE ADVENT OF OUR KING"

SERMON TEXT: ISAIAH 2:1-5

This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:

²In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established
as the highest of the mountains;

it will be exalted above the hills,
and all nations will stream to it.

³Many peoples will come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the temple of the God of Jacob.

He will teach us his ways,
so that we may walk in his paths."

The law will go out from Zion,
the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

⁴He will judge between the nations
and will settle disputes for many peoples.

They will beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.

Nation will not take up sword against nation,
nor will they train for war anymore.

⁵Come, descendants of Jacob,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

SERMON THEME:

It's Time!



THANKSGIVING

PLEASE STAND

THE APOSTLES' CREED

(Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word.)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

BE SEATED

OFFERING

Please sign the Friendship Register in each of the pews and pass it to those sitting next to you.

Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Luke 12:34) The members of Northdale Lutheran joyfully give our offerings to the LORD in response to His Word and in thanks for the many ways he has blessed us. We have joined together as a congregation to use these offerings to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world through the work of our Synod. Your gifts moved by the Holy Spirit out love for God and his blessings are welcome.

PLEASE STAND

OFFERING HYMN, CW #485, "WE GIVE THE BUT THINE OWN" (VS. 1-2)



1 We give thee but thine own, What - e'er
2 May we thy love - ties thus As stew -
3 Oh, hearts are bruised and dead, And homes
4 To com - fort and to bless, To find
5 The cap - tives to re - lease, To God



the gift may be; All that we have is
ards true re - ceive And glad - ly, as thou
are bare and cold, And limbs for whom the
a balm for woe, To tend the lone and
the lost to bring, To teach the way of



thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from thee
bless - est us, To thee our first - fruits give,
shep - herd led Are stray - ing from the fold
fa - ther - less, Is an - gels' work be - low,
life and peace— It is a Chris - like thing.

6 And we believe thy Word
Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823-97.
Tune: ESTROU (SM) William H. Monk, 1823-89.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

C: **We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.**

M: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

C: **Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."**

M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

C: **Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.**

M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

C: **Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C: **Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

All: **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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power
and the glory forever and forever. Amen.**

BE SEATED

HYMN, CWS #704, "LO, HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING"

PLEASE STAND

FINAL PRAYER

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace



BE SEATED

FINAL HYMN, CW #9, "JESUS YOUR CHURCH WITH LONGING EYES"

WELS CONNECTION

The WELS Connection is a brief 5 minute video that highlights some of the work in which we are privileged to participate through our Wisconsin Synod. The ministries that are highlighted in this video are funded through our Congregational Mission Offerings. Please take note of the "WELS Connection Close-up" companion piece in your worship folder for additional information.

Copies of today's sermon and last week's sermon can be found on the table in the narthex on the way out of church. You can also find them on our website at www.northdalelutheran.org. In addition, all of our services are live streamed & can be viewed through the live streaming link located on our church website. We also e-mail out daily devotions. If you would like to receive these daily devotions, please e-mail Pastor Vann at pastorvann@tampabay.rr.com and let him know. You can also become a friend on Facebook.



Announcements:

Bible Class: Today we continue our study of Luke's account of Jesus' life in his Gospel in our Sunday Morning Bible Class. We encourage everyone to join us for this. Join us at 9:25 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Thursday Night Bible Study: We continue our study of the book of Exodus in our Thursday Bible Study. We'd love to have you join us for this study. If you are interested in purchasing a People's Bible of Exodus to aid you in your study, please let me know. We meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays. Please consider joining us for this.

Order Scrip Now for Christmas: Using Scrip is a great way for you to purchase gift cards as Christmas gifts for loved ones who live so far away. You can get all your shopping done in one place and get the exact cards that you need. If you want to do that through Jessie Thiesfeldt, the order is going in December 5, so you will want to take care of that quickly. If you want to order online, just go to www.shopwithscrip.com and use our enrollment code which is 2BD4FDAL1328L. If you have any questions about this, please contact Jessie Thiesfeldt at (786) 423-1686.

Stewardship Appeal Team: We are thankful for the many people who have agreed to serve on the Stewardship Appeal team and lead our congregation as we seek to expand the ministry of our school. The meetings for this Appeal team are now scheduled for Thursday, December 1 at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30 p.m. The positions we are looking for are listed below. Please read through this list. If you are interested in helping, you can contact Pastor Vann or any one of the Ministry Leadership Team members. We are excited about the opportunity and thankful for the help that we will receive.

Thanksgiving Food Drive: Our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive for Metropolitan Ministries starts today! God has blessed each of us tremendously. This is one opportunity we have to give thanks to him for all of his good news by giving to others who are less fortunate for us. We will begin collecting food the first Sunday in November and will continue into the first week of December. Please bring non-persishable food items and place them on the tables provided either in the church or the school building. Please plan on participating in this giving opportunity.

The Northdale Lutheran ONLINE church directory is now up and available for our members to access! Visit www.northdalelutheran.org and select "Resources" then log in to the Member Directory (if you don't have a login, you can create an account.) If you did not take advantage of our church directory family photo sessions at the end of last year, but would like a family photo included in the directory, please email your family photo to our office volunteer, **Kati Hatfield, at beautybykati@gmail.com** along with any updates (or if any information is missing) - such as address, phone, name, or birthdate - changes to your household records. Thank you to everyone for their contributions to the

directory!

Annual Christmas Dinner/White Elephant Gift Auction: Our annual Christmas Dinner/White Elephant gift auction will be held on Sunday, December 11 after our second service. This is an annual gathering that is a blast. We ask each person to bring a gift to auction off and all of the proceeds help to fund our Women of Northdale who take care of the paraments and the decorations in our church. There will be a potluck dinner served that day. We will have a sign up sheet in the entryway if you are planning to attend, just so we know we have a variety of foods available. Set your calendars and plan to attend this great fun activity.

Mid-Week Advent Worship: This year, we will be holding one mid-week advent service. This special mid-week service will be on Wednesday, December 9th. We will offer the service at both 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. We are encouraging all of our members to plan for this special service. Our mid-week Advent service will be a service of lessons and carols. This is a hymn sing service where we sing hymns and carols followed by readings. It will be a night of reflection and meditation as we ponder the coming of our King and reflect on Jesus Christ as the Light of the World.

Called Staff

Pastor Charlie Vannieuwenhoven: 813-850-7520

Principal Mark Thiesfeldt: 941-209-0010

Aimee Hardman: 813-464-5113

Amy Vannieuwenhoven: 813-850-7520

Christopher Haring: 517-202-7283

Lynn Marggraf: 262-613-3020

This Week:

Tuesday (11/29): 5:30pm - Catechism Class

Thursday (12/1): 6:30pm - Stewardship Appeal Team

Saturday (12/3): 5:00pm - CABA Holiday Tree Lighting

Sunday (12/5): 8:00 & 10:30am - Worship

9:15am – Teen Bible Study and Sunday School

9:25am – Adult Bible Study

11:30am - Fellowship

Serving Today

Music: Lynn Marggraf

Ushers: 8:00—Bill Montgomery

10:30 — Tom/Ona Scherer

Acolyte: 8:00—Julia Busch

10:30—Natalie Yancey

Hostess: Kim Schacker

Elder: Chris Teeples

Serving Next Week

Music: Mark Thiesfeldt

Ushers: 8:00—Bill Montgomery

10:30 — Tom/Ona Scherer

Acolyte: 8:00—Mary Sawyer

10:30—Rebecca Radcliff

Hostess: Lourdes Jacob

Elder: Chris Teeples

Attendance Last Week

8:00 a.m.—30

10:30 a.m.—58

Total: 88

Yearly Average: 111

% of Members in Worship: 50%

Financial Information

Contributions for 11/20: \$2,669.55

Contributions budgeted: \$4,884.61

Contributions budgeted to date: \$102,576.81

Contributions received to date: \$76,797.37

Ahead or (Short) through 11/20/16: (\$25,779.44)

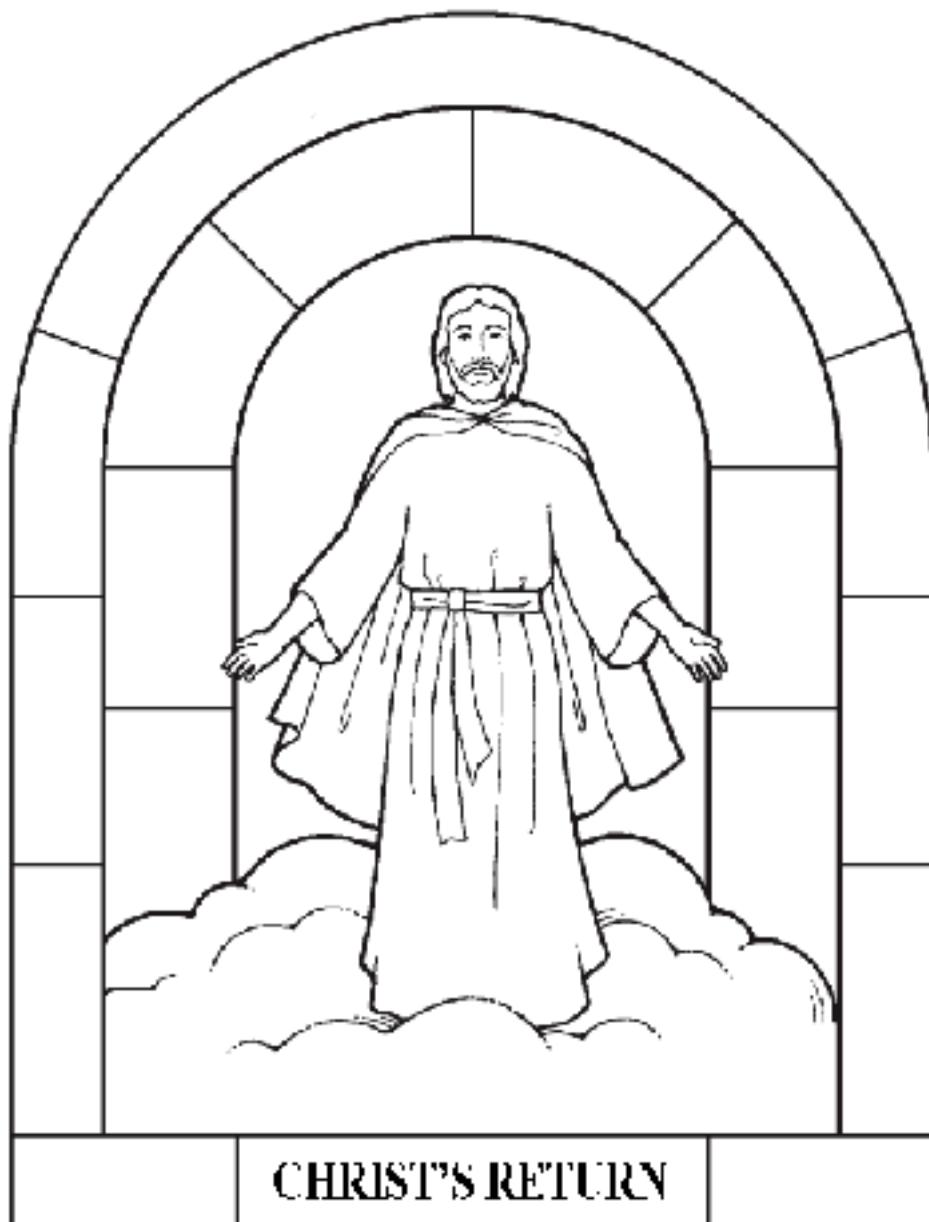
2016-2017 Year to Date Actuals Through September 30

Total Income (Church and School): \$96,718.97

Total Expenses (Church and School): \$142,171.62

Ahead of (Short) Year to Date: (\$45,452.65)

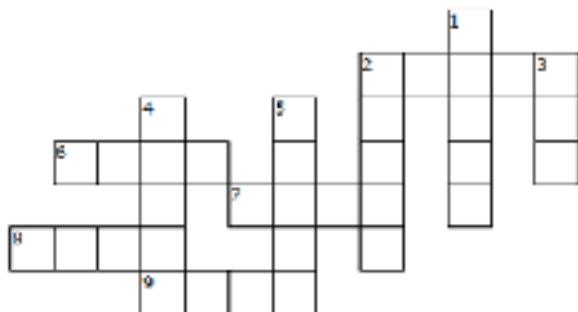
KIDS PAGE



Are You Ready?

"Stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Luke 21:28 (NIV)

Based on Luke 21:25-36



ACROSS

2. Twinkling points of light in the sky at night
6. To make a request to God
7. The large heavenly body visible in the night sky
8. To raise from a lower to a higher position
9. The part of the body containing the brain, eyes, ears, nose, mouth

DOWN

1. To observe very carefully
2. To rise to an upright position on your feet
3. The earth's source of heat and light
4. The planet on which we live
5. Large, white, fluffy things floating in the sky

PRAY

STARS

EARTH

STAND

MOON

WATCH

CLOUD

LIFT

HEAD

SUN