



NORTHDAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
TAMPA, FL
DECEMBER 8, 2019

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 SECOND 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.
- ❖ Help us be more welcoming by signing the guest registers in each row.
- ❖ 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. ***Please do not leave children unattended in the Quiet Room. We ask that at least one adult be present while children are in this room.***
- ❖ Everything you need for worship will be printed in the worship folder.



WORSHIP THEME

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near! The Forerunner prepares for the coming Christ by preaching repentance that brings renewal of life.

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN, CW #11, "COMFORT, COMFORT, ALL MY PEOPLE"



1 "Com - fort, com - fort all my peo - ple; Speak of peace,"
2 All their sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out
3 John the Bap - tist's voice is cry - ing In the des -
4 Straight - en out the crook - ed high - way; Make the rough -



so says our God. "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness,
each dark mis - deed; All that well de - serve his an - ger
ert far and near, Call - ing peo - ple to re - pent - ance
er plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



Groan - ing from their sor - rows' load. Speak to all
He no more will see or heed. They have suf -
For the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn -
Read - y for his ho - ly reign. For the glo -



Je - ru - sa - lem Of the peace that waits for them;
fered man - y a day; Now their griefs have passed a - way.
ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
ry of the Lord Now o'er earth is spread a - broad,



Tell them that their sins I cov - er,
God will change their ach - ing sad - ness
Let the val - leys rise to meet him
And all flesh shall see the to - ken



That their war - fare now is o - ver."
In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
And the hills bow down to greet him.
That his word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johannes Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: FREU DICH SEHR (87 87 77 88) *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551.

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.

C: **Amen**



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)*



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the cap - tives to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Your wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre -
pris - on held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst; The i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring With your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51, abr., alt.

Tune: CHESTERFIELD (CM) Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820, alt.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

BE SEATED

THE WORD OF GOD*



THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 11:1-10

God would renew the stub of David's Kingdom, but it wouldn't be the restoration of an earth rule and reign over Israel. David's greater Son would rule over a renewed kingdom, sin and its effects are gone; peace and righteousness rule.

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

²The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—
³and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;
⁴but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.

He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

⁵Righteousness will be his belt
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

⁶The wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard will lie down with the goat,
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;
and a little child will lead them.

⁷The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

⁸The infant will play near the cobra's den,
and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.

⁹They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover
the sea.

¹⁰In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples;
the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.



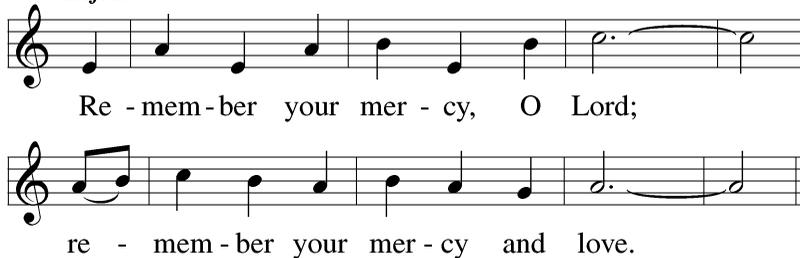
***The Word of God**

"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

PSALM OF THE DAY, PSALM 130

When we repent of our sins, we rejoice in God's forgiveness.

Refrain



Re - mem - ber your mer - cy, O Lord;
re - mem - ber your mer - cy and love.

Psalm tone



*
re - mem - ber your mer - cy and love.

Refrain

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;*
O Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive*
to my cry for mercy.

If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins,*
O Lord, who could stand?

But with you there is forgiveness;*
therefore you are feared.

Refrain

I wait for the LORD and in his Word I put my hope.*
My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning.

O Israel, put your hope in the LORD,*
for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

**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: ROMANS 15:4-13

This Lesson serves as the Sermon Text for this morning.

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

⁵May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, ⁶so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed ⁹and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written:

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles;
I will sing the praises of your name."

¹⁰Again, it says,

"Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles;
let all the peoples extol him."

¹²And again, Isaiah says,

"The Root of Jesse will spring up,
one who will arise to rule over the nations;
in him the Gentiles will hope."

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

THE VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. All mankind will see God's salvation. Alleluia.

PLEASE STAND

THE GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 3:1-12

Many people responded to John's preaching with repentance, baptism and spiritual renewal. Others neither repented nor produced the fruits of a life renewed by the Spirit. John told both groups that the Messiah was near; near to the people to save them; near to the religious leaders to judge them.

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea² and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.' "

⁴John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. ⁶Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

BE SEATED

SERMON HYMN, CW #16, "ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY"



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc -
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin And fur -
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref -
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, And lift
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, Whose ad -



es that the Lord is nigh; Come, then, and lis - ten,
nished for a guest with - in, And let us all our
uge and our great re - ward. With - out your grace we
us up to fall no more. Oh, make your face on
vent has our free - dom won, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Good news a - bout the King of kings.
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
us to shine, And fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, st. 1-3, alt.; composite, st. 4-5.
Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (LM) Latin melody, 15th century, adapt.

SERMON TEXT: 2 PETER 1:3

His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

SERMON THEME:

Relying on the Survival Kit

I. Protected in the short term

II. Saved in the long term

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.

Online giving is now set up and available through our membership software entitled Breeze. You can give through Breeze two ways: 1) You can give by texting "Give" to (813) 652-0408. 2) You can go to <https://northdale.breezechms.com/give/online>. You can certainly ask if you have any questions.

PLEASE STAND

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 in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

BE SEATED



HYMN, CWS #702, "PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY"



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: Your
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It



King of kings is near! Let ev - 'ry hill and
 own e - ter - nal King! Palm branch - es strew be -
 greet your prom - ised King! Your King, yet ev - 'ry
 comes from heav'n a - bove. His rule is peace and



val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
 fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
 free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, Fore - told in
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall
 All lands, bow down be - fore him! All na - tions,
 So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness



sa - cred sto - ry:
 doubt as - sail you! Ho - san - na to the
 now a - dore him!
 so a - bound - ing:



Lord, For he ful - fills God's Word!

This hymn reminds us that Advent is a season of preparation, as King Jesus comes to rule in our hearts and lives and leads us to his heavenly kingdom.

Text: F. M. Franzen, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*; admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN (76 76 77 and Refrain) Swedish folk tune, 17th century

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

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@northdalelutheran.org and let him know. You can also become a friend on Facebook.

Announcements:

Thank You, Pastor Kolterjahn: We thank Pastor Rick Kolterjahn for his message from God's Word this morning. Pastor Kolterjahn is retired from full time ministry and the father of our member, Mary Picone. We thank him for his work and pray for God's blessing on his message.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: We continue our Bible Study on the Four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) in our Sunday Morning Bible Study. We had a great turn out for our first class. We are excited to have so many people eager to learn about the Gospels. This class takes a look at the life of Jesus in a chronological order. It is a great way to become more acquainted with your Savior Jesus and know all that he did to live as your substitute here on this earth. It is through the study of God's Word that we remain connected to our Savior and grow in our faith and godly living. This is a great time for you to begin coming to Bible Study on Sunday. We hope to see you on Sunday morning.

MLT is Seeking Nominations for Treasurer: Due to work responsibilities and time constraints, our current Treasurer, Erik Ashley, had to step down from this position. The Ministry Leadership Team is currently seeking nominations for men who are qualified and willing to serve in this position. If you would like to nominate someone or have questions about the position, please speak to our congregational Chairman, Jeff Berg, or to Pastor Vann. We thank Erik for his work during the time he served our congregation. We are greatly appreciative of his work and time.

Congregational Meeting Called: The Ministry Leadership Team is calling a special congregational meeting for Sunday, December 22 after the second service. There will be two main items on the agenda for this meeting. At the last congregational meeting, a name change for our school was recommended. After many meetings and much discussion, the MLT approved a recommendation from the School Marketing Team and School Ministry Board to recommend a name change to the voters. The name they are recommending is: Northdale Christian Academy. Approving this name change will allow our School Marketing Team to continue their plans to create a new school website. The second item on the agenda is a recommendation to gift to Pastor and Amy Vann the downpayment loan on their house which they were given when they moved here in lieu of housing allowance that wasn't paid to Amy over the last 5 years which should have been. Jeff Berg will share more details about both of these items prior to the meeting on the 22nd. Please plan to be present for this meeting.

Mid-Week Advent Worship: We have the opportunity to gather for a special mid-week Advent worship service on Wednesday, December 11. We will worship at 2:00 and 6:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to take a few moments during a busy season to pause and reflect on the goodness of our God as we prepare for his second coming. Join us!

Annual Christmas Dinner/White Elephant Gift Auction: Our annual Christmas Dinner/White Elephant gift auction will be held on Sunday, December 15 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.

Christmas Worship Schedule: It is time to once again be thinking about our Christmas worship of our Lord and King. What joyous days of celebration these are for God's people as we ponder God's love in the miracle of Jesus becoming flesh. We invite you and any guests you might want to invite and/or bring to join us for each of these special opportunities to gather before God and worship him for his goodness in sending Jesus to be our Savior. Our Christmas Worship is as follows:

Christmas Eve Worship: Tuesday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Children's Service

6:30 p.m. Candlelight Service

Christmas Day Festival Service: Wednesday, December 25 10:00 a.m.

Called Staff

Pastor Charlie Vannieuwenhoven: 813-787-4854

Principal Dane Mattes: 920-588-7599

Aimee Hardman: 813-464-5113

Christopher Haring: 517-202-7283

Joanne Mattes: 920-588-7596

Bethany Schwartz: 920-222-9279

Amy Vannieuwenhoven: 813-787-5025

This Week:

Tuesday (12/10): 6:30pm - Bible Information Class

Wednesday (12/11): 2:00pm - Mid Week Advent Worship

6:30pm - Mid Week Advent Worship

7:00pm - Catechism Class

Thursday (12/12): 6:30 Evenings with Pastor

Sunday (12/15): 8:00 & 10:30am - Worship

9:15am – Teen Bible Study and Sunday School

9:25am – Adult Bible Study

11:30am - Christmas Dinner/White Elephant Gift Auction

Serving Today

Music: 8:00-Rachel Wilson

10:30—Amy Vann
Ushers: 8:00—Brian Busch
10:30 — Joe Picone/Kim Schacker
Acolyte: 8:00—Daniel Busch
10:30—Aryssa Kingsborough
Elder: David Mosakowski

Music: Dane Mattes
Ushers: 8:00—Brian Busch
10:30 — Joe Picone/Kim Schacker
Acolyte: 8:00 —Carolyn Mattes
10:30— Micah Vannieuwenhoven
Elder: David Mosakowski

Serving Next Week

Attendance Last Week

8:00 a.m.—25

10:30 a.m.—65

Total: 90

Yearly Average: 103

% of Members in Worship: 42%

Financial Information

Contributions for 11/27: \$330.00

Contributions for 12/1: \$2,683.00

Online Contributions through 12/1: \$3,825.00

Contributions budgeted: \$4,423.08

Contributions budgeted to date: \$97,306.76

Contributions received to date: \$99,024.85

Ahead or (Short) through 12/1/19: \$1,717.09

Building Our Faith ~ Family ~ Future

Total Gifts Pledged to the Project: \$370,000.00

Received Last Week: \$1,738.00

Total received to date: \$328,976.72

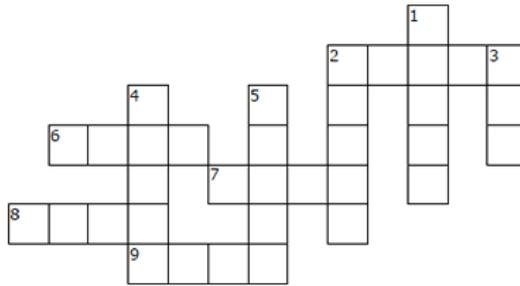
Projected Completion date: March 2020

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