

## **2024-09-01 Elder Andrew Dunning – Sermon “Repentance” – Song and Worship Service**

<https://youtu.be/P6RA95htWhk>

<https://www.livinghopebranch.org/sermons/2024-09-01-elder-andrew-dunning-repentance-worship-service/>

### **Clickable Time Stamps**

**00:00** Welcome – Elder Jack Hagensen

**00:20** Special Music – “Meditation (Baptism)” – Faith Lassen

**06:05** Call to Worship – Elder Jack Hagensen

**15:39** Special Music – “Hymn of Nature (All Creatures of Our God and King)” – Faith Lassen

**21:13** Sermon – “Repentance” - Elder Andrew Dunning

**59:53** Pastoral Prayer – Elder Gary Hawley

### **Sermon Summary**

**This message emphasizes the importance of communion as a time for reflection and repentance. It connects the act of taking communion with remembering Jesus’ sacrifice and examining one’s relationship with God. Elder Andrew Dunning encourages self-reflection and personal responsibility, sharing anecdotes about family and friends to illustrate the journey of repentance and the transformative joy it brings when one aligns their will with God’s.**

### **Highlights**

- 1. Communion as Reflection: Communion is a moment to remember Jesus and examine our lives.**
- 2. Theme of Repentance: This month’s focus is on repentance, recognizing our need to realign with God.**
- 3. Personal Responsibility: Our actions impact not just ourselves but also those around us.**
- 4. Joy in Repentance: True joy comes from relinquishing worldly attachments and following God’s will.**
- 5. Stories of Transformation: Sharing personal stories illustrates the power of repentance and change.**

- 6. Importance of Self-Examination:** Regular reflection allows us to assess our spiritual growth and relationship with God.
- 7. God's Desire for Our Joy:** God wants us to experience true joy, which comes from following His commandments.

### **Key Insights**

- 1. Communion and Remembrance:** The act of partaking in communion serves as a vital reminder of Jesus' sacrifice. It is an opportunity to reconnect with our faith and understand the depth of our covenant with God.
- 2. Repentance as a Collective Journey:** While repentance is often viewed as an individual act, it also has communal implications. We are accountable to one another, and our spiritual journeys can influence those around us.
- 3. Self-Reflection is Crucial:** Taking time to reflect on our actions and relationship with God helps us identify areas for improvement and growth. Regular self-examination fosters a deeper understanding of our spiritual path.
- 4. Transformative Power of God:** Personal stories highlight how encountering God can radically change lives. The speaker's friend exemplifies this transformation, showing that genuine repentance can lead to a joyful and fulfilling life.
- 5. Joy from Following God's Will:** True joy comes not from the pleasures of the world but from aligning our lives with God's will. When we let go of sinful habits, we open ourselves to profound happiness and peace.
- 6. The Role of Trust in Relationships:** Trust is fundamental in our relationships with others and with God. Just as children must learn to be honest, we must be truthful with ourselves and God to maintain that trust.
- 7. God's Intent for Our Lives:** God desires the best for us, and His commandments are not merely rules but pathways to a richer, more joyful existence. Understanding this can motivate us to embrace repentance and grow spiritually.