

# Forgiveness Fire

*We celebrate Ash Wednesday on February 14, 2024. This day marks the beginning of Lent, a season of repentance and reflection. Whenever we confess ways that we've messed up or hurt another person, if we ever feel overwhelmed by guilt or shame, we find ourselves in the company of Jesus, who offers the gifts of unconditional love, bottomless forgiveness, and fresh starts forever.*

*Share this ritual of burning sins, regrets, and brokenness on your own or with family or friends.*

## Gather Supplies:

- Fire (outdoors or fireplace; lit candles could work)
- Pieces of paper
- Pencils/crayons/markers
- Marshmallows & Roasting Sticks (optional)



## Reflect:

- What would you like to confess or erase from your past?
- In what area of your life could you use the gift of a fresh start?
- How do you feel called to repent?
- Write out or draw a picture of your response to one or more of these questions.

## Let Go:

Crumple up and toss your confession into the fire, or roast it on the end of a stick.

## Pray:

As you burn your confession, (each person gathered) say these words from Psalm 51:10:

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.”

## Toast and Taste:

Enjoy a perfectly-roasted (or crisply-burnt) marshmallow. Notice how soft and gooey and delicious it became in the fire. Isn't it a miracle that God can nurture joy, healing, comfort, and sweetness out of brokenness, loss, and mistakes?