Rhythm of prayer: night

Attentiveness

From the lighthouse to the hillsides, greetings to conversations and noise to quietness, you have surrounded us this day.

Under your loving gaze, Lord Jesus, we reflect on the day that is past, and pray for the light and guidance of your Spirit.

Bible verses

Yes, my soul, find rest in God;
my hope comes from him.
Truly he is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.
My salvation and my honour depend on God;
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.
Trust in him at all times, you people;
pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.
Psalm 62:5-8

"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." Psalm 46:10

Declaration of Faith

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved.

Ephesians 2:4-5

[pause]

Confession

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not bring us to the time of trial,
but rescue us from the evil one.
Matthew 6:9-13 (NRSV)

Bible reading

Psalm 27:7-9 Psalm 55 Luke 5:16

Collect

Loving God,
King of life and bringer of light,
who creates and goes on creating,
In this time of night, do not slumber or sleep,
but watch over us, quieten our minds
and still our hearts.
Speak and help us hear you,
in mighty and tender tones –
talk with us, as with a friend,
that we may learn your voice and follow you,
in quietness and trust.
This we ask you as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

[pause]

Prayer of commitment

Teach us, good Lord,
to serve you as you deserve:
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to ask for any reward
except our knowing that we do your will,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Ignatius of Loyola

Blessing

The Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make his face to shine upon us and be gracious to us; the Lord lift up his countenance upon us and give us peace. Amen. Numbers 6:24-26

