

### Luke 6:17-26 (The Voice)

<sup>17</sup>The whole crowd of disciples (*including the 12 now designated as His emissaries*) came down together, and they stood on a level area nearby. They were joined by an even greater crowd of people who had come from across the whole region—from all of Judea, from Jerusalem, from the coastal areas of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup>These people came to hear Jesus teach and to be healed by Jesus of their diseases. Those who were troubled by demonic spirits were liberated.

<sup>19</sup>Everyone wanted to touch Jesus because when they did, power emanated from Him and they were healed. <sup>20</sup>He looked across the faces of His disciples.

**Jesus:** All you who are poor, you are blessed  
for the kingdom of God belongs to you.

<sup>21</sup> All you who are hungry now, you are blessed  
for your hunger will be satisfied.

All you who weep now, you are blessed  
for you shall laugh!

<sup>22</sup> When people hate you, when they exclude you  
and insult you and write you off as evil  
on account of the Son of Man, you are blessed.

<sup>23</sup> When these things happen, rejoice! Jump for joy!  
Then you have a great reward in heaven

For at that moment, you are experiencing what the ancient prophets did when they were similarly treated by the ancestors of your detractors.

<sup>24</sup> All you who are rich now, you are in danger  
for you have received your comfort in full.

<sup>25</sup> All you who are full now, you are in danger  
for you shall be hungry.

All you who laugh now, you are in danger  
for you shall grieve and cry.

<sup>26</sup> And when everyone speaks well of you, you are in danger  
for their ancestors spoke well of the false prophets too.

### For Reflection and Prayer:

Was there a word, phrase or image which caught your attention as you listened to or slowly read the text? Quietly savor this with Jesus.

Notice any felt sense that seems to emerge as you linger with this passage. It might come as a bodily feeling, emotion, metaphor, picture, gesture or sound. See if you can describe it and simply be with it with patient curiosity. Be open to whatever more might emerge.

Perhaps you might want to draw, color or journal your conversation.

As the time of prayer comes to a close, share some quiet moments with Jesus, simply resting safely in his presence.

### Luke 6:17-26 (NRSVUE)

<sup>17</sup> He came down with them and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup> They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup> And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

#### **Blessings and Woes**

<sup>20</sup> Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> “Blessed are you who are hungry now,  
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,  
for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> “Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup> Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> “But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> “Woe to you who are full now,  
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,  
for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.