

Mary Manifesto Meeting

Guide

We invite:

- People of all gender identities to join the group
- A woman to give a 5-minute spiritual reflection
- People from different national backgrounds and time zones
- Someone or some people with strong grassroots experience or circumstance of tackling poverty, especially for women and children.

Invitation

MEETING VOLUNTEERS

We need to volunteers to help run the meeting: 1) zoom management; 2) scheduling meeting and managing the email invites, 3) a secretary for the meeting to record notes to distribute. Please contact us if you can help.

PROJECT VOLUNTEERS

To advance the Mary Manifesto we have a nonprofit to build. Please contact us if you are willing help 1) build the organization and raise resources 2) Build a website and Facebook group.

Volunteers

We remind everyone when the next meeting is.

Next Meeting

Agenda

We go over the agenda and commit to end on time

1. Arrival and start (5)
2. Reading of Mary Manifesto (5)
3. Spiritual Reflection by a woman (5)
4. Reading of the Psalm of Change - twice - in the Slow Lecta Divina form (10)
5. Break into small groups - randomly - of no more than four people to discuss a theme sparked in you by the Psalm of Change. (20)
6. Collective closing, we will ask people to share in the chat what struck them as memorable and what they are motivated to do (10)
7. Closing Reading of the Magnificat (5)

The Mary Manifesto

We ask for a
volunteer to read

A call to support 318 WOMEN to gather in 2025 to review the Christian notion of God and the Creed, 1,700 years after 318 MEN met in Nicaea to do the same. Let us be transformed!

The Mary Manifesto

We ask for a
volunteer to read

In the year 325, a single man, the Roman Emperor Constantine I, a convert to Christianity, summoned delegates from throughout the Roman Empire to decide on the “correct” belief of the Christian Church. These men—318, according to some historians— met as a Council in Nicaea starting on June 19th. They defined the Godhead as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost and created the original Nicene Creed.

We believe it will be wonderful and inspiring for 318 women to gather in 2025 and declare how they view the Godhead and the “correct” belief of the Christian Church.

The Mary Manifesto

We ask for a male volunteer to read

Men – can we be quiet for a moment, pause, breathe and listen? For nearly 1,700 years God has been predominantly defined in the Christian context by the men of Nicaea. Can we, men, be supportive to listen to the voices of our sisters?

As men, we join in pledging not to obstruct, but to support without strings and provide funds for the Council of 318 women. We do not expect to participate, and will be bold enough to listen, support, and wait to learn what happens.

The Mary Manifesto

We ask for a female volunteer to read

Women – so many sisters have been silenced. Before a new council, please ask women all over the world, and anyone who does not identify as male, to meet to read the gospels and reflect and comment on the power of the gospels.

As women, we will support and provide funds for the Council of 318 women; we will encourage women to read the gospels and reflect on why Jesus was so adored by the women of his time.

The Mary Manifesto

We ask for a
volunteer to read

Dear 318 women: We do not know how you will organize yourselves, but please engage with men afterwards and help them understand how you define the Godhead and the creed we need.

We, the undersigned, look forward to learning what the 318 women discern, and will share their news widely to inform the deepening of our faith.

**Reflection by a Woman – 5
minutes**

We ask for Two Volunteers to read SLOWLY

We read through the Psalm of Change Twice

At each asterisk (*) remember to pause.

Psalm of Change

A Psalm of Change

Slowly We Breathe the Change

Please read like a psalm and pause at each selah (asterisk) *

Slowly We Breathe,

1. We support a space, singing an ode to “we,” men and women
* and however we identify.

Slowly We Breathe,

2. We support a space where we can be open, be imagined by the best in all of us
* to do the most for those with the least.

Slowly We Breathe,

3. We support a space safe of no accusation, of no oppression
* where anger can arise and blossom into inspiration.

Slowly We Breathe,

4. We support a space for the feminine voice

* and for voices to be heard that have not been heard, and for those who have been silenced.

Slowly We Breathe,

5. We support a space for those who did not hear or could not listen

* or would not listen.

Slowly We Breathe,

6. We support a space for deep and loving reconciliation

* for feminine and masculine voices to sing in unison again.

Slowly We Breathe,

7. We support a space for words
that will inspire a thousand years
of deeds

* that will make a difference.

Slowly We Breathe,

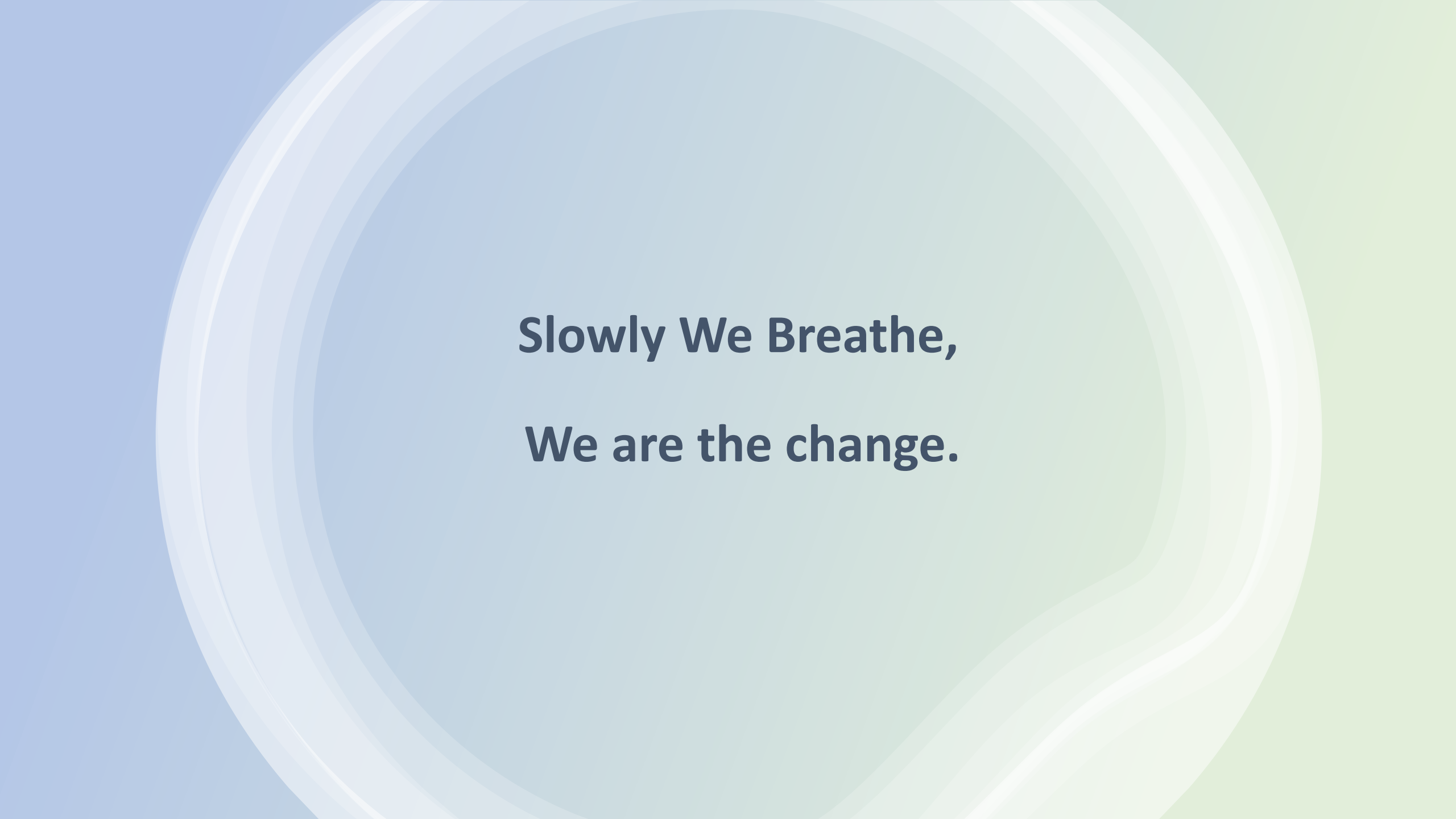
8. We support a space for faith that
enables us to change who we are

* and be the loving transformation the
greater “we” wants us to be.

Slowly We Breathe,

9. We support a space to feel the
curiosity, to give our names,
to add our effort

* to leave a loving impression for
millennia to come.

The background features a series of concentric, semi-transparent circles in shades of light blue and white, creating a ripple effect. The overall color palette transitions from a soft blue on the left to a light green on the right.

**Slowly We Breathe,
We are the change.**

A Psalm of Change

Slowly We Breathe the Change

Please read like a psalm and pause at each selah (asterisk) *

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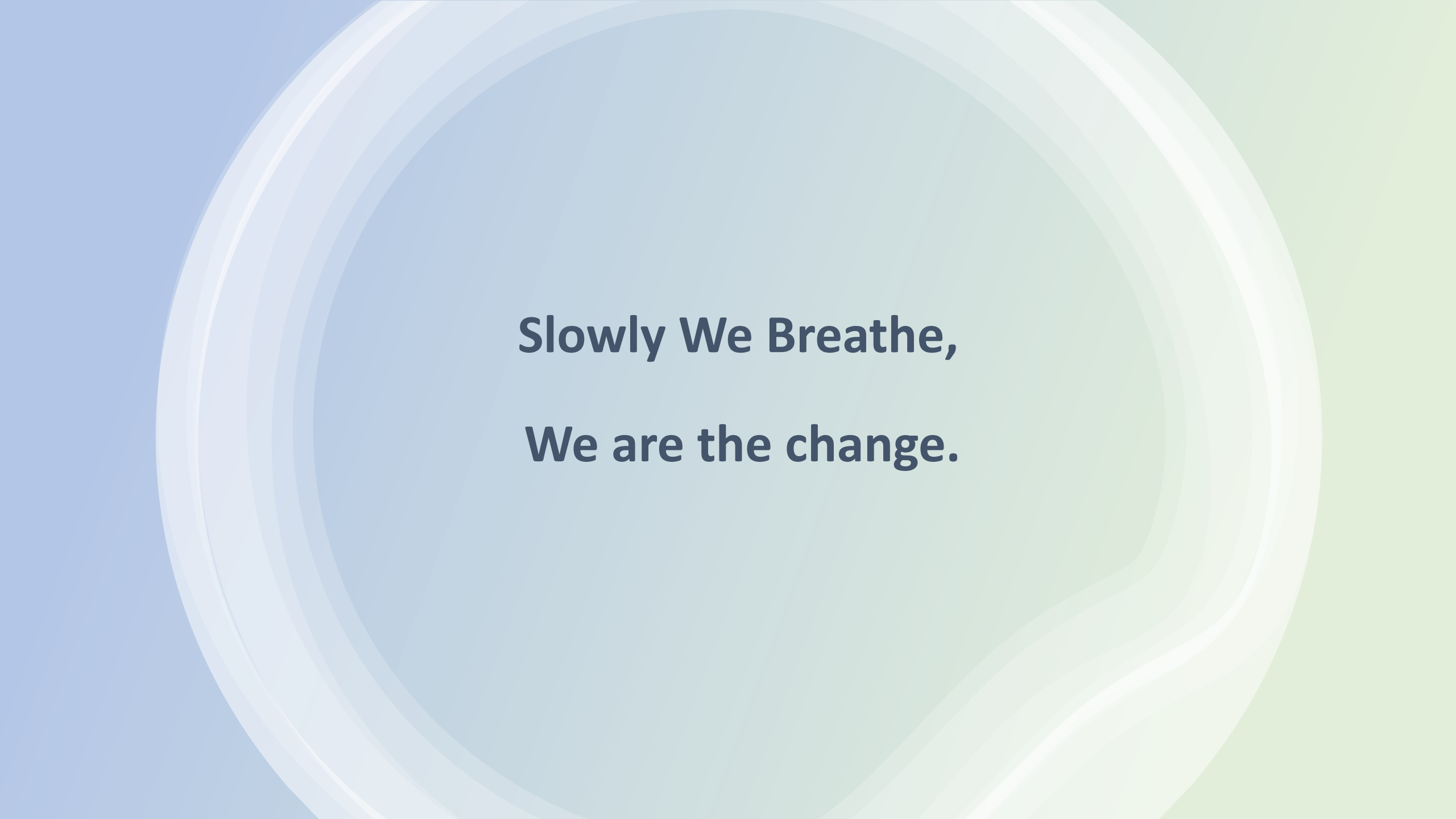
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The background features a series of concentric, overlapping circles that create a sense of depth and movement. The color palette transitions from a deep blue on the left to a bright green on the right, with the circles themselves being semi-transparent and blending into the background. The text is centered within the innermost circle.

**Slowly We Breathe,
We are the change.**

MAKING CONNECTIONS & BUILDING COMMUNITY

In the small groups there is not enough time for everyone to introduce themselves so please instead share contact information to connect afterwards via the chat function and focus on the issue that the psalm raised for you. Please ensure that everyone has the opportunity to speak and no one person dominates the conversation.

Go to small groups

Collective closing, we will ask people to share in the chat what struck them as memorable and what they are motivated to do.

And we ask a volunteer to read the Magnificat.

Closing

The Magnificat

46 And Mary said,
“My soul magnifies the Lord,
47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
48 for he has looked on the humble estate of
his servant.

For behold, from now on all
generations will call me blessed;
49 for he who is mighty has done great things
for me,
and holy is his name.

50 And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

The Magnificat

51 He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts
of their hearts;
52 he has brought down the mighty from
their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;
53 he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
54 He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
55 as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

Reminder of next meeting date

Next Meetings

Please go to MaryManifesto.org

Or Email 318womenformary@gmail.com

Or contact your local organizer

Contact Information

If you would want to create your own meeting:

1. Click the Start a Meeting tab on the website
2. Please contact for help
318womenformary@gmail.com
3. Please attend a Monthly Meeting to experience a meeting.

Set up your own meeting