

Poem by Karen Portsmouth

Yorkshire N&E District Synod, Sept 2021

Enabled by the blessing of Graham Jones's address,
ahead of the carefully prepared creative session.

Written in response to the migrant crisis,
coronavirus and someone taking their own life

Lament

Laughter

Looking Forward

Written by
Karen Portsmouth

Breathe...

**Expand my heart, my lungs, my mind
So that I can breathe... in...**

**Breathe in lack
Breathe in pain
Breathe in isolation, confusion and sorrow unnamed.**

**Inhale the horror
Inhale the neglect
Inhale the height and breadth and depth
of Love misplaced
displaced
unfound, unformed**

carelessly left so far behind.

**Leaving
others,
self
and God
as
I
LOCK INTO LAMENT.**

And later,

much later,

**slowly I learn
to breathe out**

and

return

**to all Life and all Love
breathed in, and out, and through,
from Above.**