

earth

they say distance
brings perspective
Apollo astronauts gifted us
an image of the earth
never seen before

today Artemis II astronauts
deliver the same
inspiring wonder
in all who choose to see

but our beautiful world
feels anything but stable
thin are the spaces
where reason can thrive
wide are the chasms
peacemakers must cross

how wild is it
that a space mission
feels more credible
than an end to war
without a plan
where stakes are high
and objectives obscure

on the tiny patch of land
I call home
all I feel I can do
is breathe
the one constant
in this ever changing world

inhale and exhale
trying to let go
of the worries
I can neither
quiet nor control

I think of the astronauts
hurtling towards the moon
trusting in technology
training and wit
to bring them home

I wonder too
about the dead
and displaced of Iran
in what they might trust
and if they still
have homes to call their own

I know of course
home is not place alone
but is peace
comfort and belonging
home is your sense of self
it is identity and connection

in the end
the only mission
we must embrace
is for survival of all our kind
here on earth

to deserve the right
to stay rooted
in the place we began
tethered between
the earth and sky

privileged to call this home
confident that no matter
how far we venture
it remains the place
to which we return