Prairie Dogs

The prairie dog warms the artist’s heart,
Something about it speaks to her art,
These little fellas that live in a town,
Are pretty cute as they dive underground.

They live in tunnels and pop up to check in,
To see what is happenin’ near to their den,
They stake out towns with family plots,
Imagine the prairie divided into lots.

The prairie dog’s language is highly sophisticated,
It makes other species seem antiquated,
Each predator is called out in different ways,
Who’d have thought these dogs could turn a phrase?

When the predator comes the response will differ,
They don’t want to become anyone’s dinner,
For the hawk they hide by jumping inside,
But the coyote they watch, their time to bide.

Females have sex for one hour a year,
It has to be good to convey a year’s cheer,
And the family unit is the town’s heart,
The females stay while the young males depart.

These dogs are a keystone to ecological success
Of the prairie grasses, the prairie process,
Without these dogs the prairie would suffer,
Now aren’t these good things to today discover?

This dog of the prairie is full of surprise,
I’d love to see it in the morning’s sunrise,  
Stretching its arms, barking a greeting,  
Enjoying a perfect moment that’s always fleeting.

The variety of Earth Church continues to amaze  
With such wonderful species upon which to gaze,  
It’s there for us all if we just take the time,  
To fail to enjoy it ought to be a crime.

So welcome to Earth Church,  
Pull yourself up a pew,  
Here a prairie dog family  
Will entertain you.