

Virus Vigil

Poetry by Jim Blackburn Art by Curry Chapman

## Earth Church and the Holidays

Earth church sends greetings to you with love, It comes via roadrunner and not from the dove, This ground cuckoo is our messenger bird, He's a heavier lifter than the hummingbird.

Among the packages he's delivering to you Are Earth Church thoughts to help you through What for some can be rather hard days ahead, We'll see if we can help get your head out of bed.

We'll start by admitting this holiday is different, Covid's shut us down, we can't be indifferent, We all should admit that this might not be perfect, And fight to push back its negative effect.

Remember these holidays are about gratitude, So block out that negative and adjust your attitude, Think of this roadrunner who comes with a greeting, It might give you a smile, albeit fleeting.

This roadrunner's insistent and will sing to you, It's a mournful song but it won't make you blue, Just think of the effort by this bird so shy, This is all for you – he's no gadfly.

These holidays are about religions of different types, There's Hanukkah and Christmas each with their hypes, But back in Rome there was the solstice Saturnalia, When gifts were exchanged in grand regalia.

But back to the roadrunner at your front door,

He's more about the message than the lore, He wants you to go out and experience nature, To make you feel better and your holiday greater.

For the Earth is our healer, our hope and our source, And the roadrunner wants you to accept and rejoice What nature has done and will do for us all And he cries out "Beep Beep" as he ends his call.

So welcome to Earth church, Pull yourself up a pew, Here the roadrunner delivers Love to you.