

**November 3, 2019**

**Bless The Beasties:  
Let The Animals Teach You**

**Ancient Reading**  
~ Job 12:7-10

For now ask the animals, and let them teach you;  
ask the birds of the air, and they will tell you.  
    Speak to the earth, with all its life  
        and learn from it.  
Let the fish of the sea become your teachers.  
    Who among all these does not know  
        that the hand of YHWH has done this?  
In God's hand is the soul of every living thing  
    and the breath of every human being.

**Contemporary Reading**  
~ *adapted from Joy Harjo, first Native American US Poet Laureate (2019)*

Remember the sky you were born under,  
    know each of the star's stories.  
Remember the moon, know who she is.  
Remember the earth whose skin you are:  
red earth, black earth, yellow earth, white earth  
    brown earth, we are earth.  
Remember the plants, trees, animal life  
all have their tribes, their families, their histories, too.  
    Talk to them, listen to them.  
    They are living poems.  
    Remember the wind.  
    Remember her voice.  
    She knows the origin of this universe.