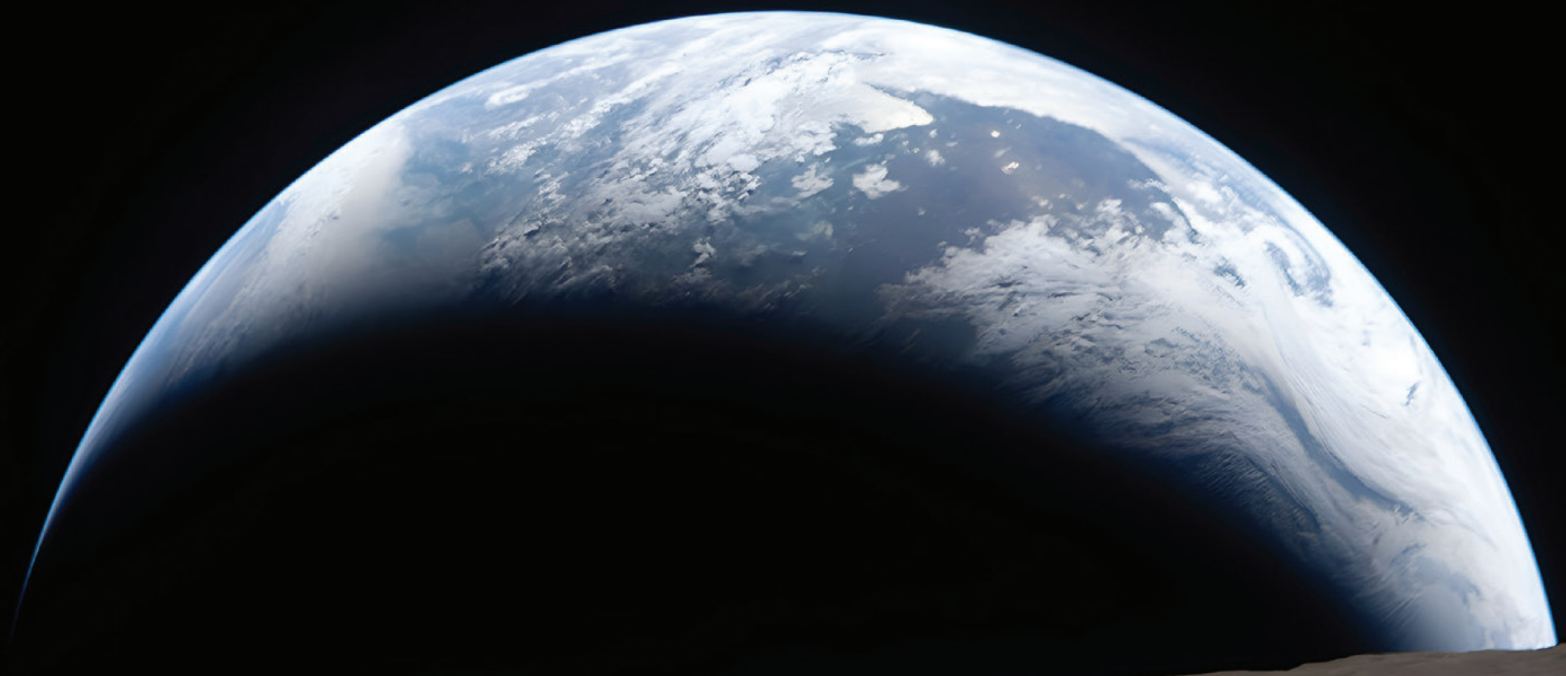


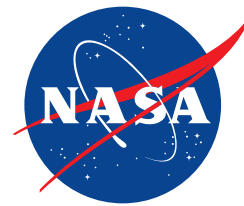
“ In all of this emptiness... you have  
this oasis, this beautiful place  
that we get to exist together

V I C T O R G L O V E R



EARTH DAY

The Journey **Starts Here**



# The Journey Starts Here

## 2026 EARTH DAY POSTER

On April 6, 2026, shortly before Earth slid behind the Moon from the perspective of Orion, and the spacecraft lost radio signal with mission control for 40 minutes, the Artemis II crew captured this stunning image of Earth setting over the lunar surface. The photo is reminiscent of the iconic 1968 Earthrise image, captured by Apollo 8 astronaut Bill Anders during the first human journey around the Moon.

As the astronauts flew over the Moon's far side, the crew photographed and described terrain features including impact craters, ancient lava flows, and surface cracks and ridges formed as the Moon slowly evolved over time. They also noted differences in color, brightness and texture, which provide clues that help scientists understand the composition and history of the lunar surface. The image has been slightly sharpened to fit the format of the poster. *Credit: NASA*

## EARTH FROM LUNAR ORBIT

This is the original "Earthrise" image, taken as the crew of Apollo 8 orbited the Moon on December 24, 1968. This image of Earth as a distant world over the Moon's horizon has been credited as inspiration for the first ever Earth Day in 1970.

**"THE VAST LONELINESS IS AWE INSPIRING, AND IT MAKES YOU REALIZE JUST WHAT YOU HAVE BACK THERE ON EARTH,"**

Apollo 8 Command Module Pilot Jim Lovell said during a live broadcast from space that night. *Credit: NASA*



Nearly the entire coastline of Africa is clearly visible, along with the Arabian Peninsula, in this breathtaking view of Earth, captured during the Apollo 17 mission's journey to the Moon on Dec. 7, 1972. This marks the first time astronauts were able to photograph the South polar ice cap. *Credit: NASA*



This nighttime picture of Earth was taken on April 2, 2026, by an Artemis II crew member aiming a camera through a window of the Orion spacecraft. The image was captured after Orion completed its translunar injection burn, the critical maneuver that sent the spacecraft on its path toward the Moon and back.

Africa is visible on the left, while a translucent cone of light capped by a bright Venus extends into space from Earth's lower right edge.

*Credit: NASA*



NASA celebrates the spirit of exploration as part of the nation's commemoration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.



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