

English Translation of "Ode to Joy" ("Ode An Die Freude")  
Words for Beethoven's 9th Symphony

O friends, no more these sounds!  
Let us sing more cheerful songs, more full of joy!

Joy, bright spark of divinity, daughter of Elysium,  
Fire-inspired we tread your sanctuary.  
Your magic power re-unites all that custom has divided,  
All men become brothers under the sway of your gentle wings.

Whoever has created an abiding friendship,  
Or has won a true and loving wife,  
All who can call at least one soul theirs, join in our song of praise;  
But any who cannot must creep tearfully away from our circle.

All creatures drink of joy at nature's breast.  
Just and unjust alike taste of her gift;  
She gave us kisses and the fruit of the vine, a true friend to the end.  
Even the worm can feel contentment, and the angel stands before God

Gladly, like the heavenly bodies which He set on their courses  
Through the splendor of the heavens;  
Thus, brothers, you should run your race, as a hero going to conquest.

You millions, I embrace you. this kiss is for all the world!  
Brothers, above the starry canopy there must dwell a loving Father.  
Do you fall in worship, you millions?  
World, do you know your creator?  
Seek him in the heavens, above the stars must He dwell.