Veneration of the chains of the holy apostle Peter

JANUARY 16

1. When, for Christ, you were im-prisoned, er-ror then was bound by you!
2. All the fa-mi-lies of na-tions once in ig-nor-ance were bound;
3. Je-sus, whom you scorned, de-ny-ing thrice as he was doomed to die,

With our whole heart we re-vere you as with faith your chains we view.
Through your chains and through your teach-ing, all the lost in Christ are found!
Has re-ceived your three-fold claim-ing; “Lord, I love You!” was your cry.

Finding strength for soul and body in these chains you bore of old,
In the vi-sion on the roof-top, which re-vealed God’s sav-ing plan
There-fore in our hearts we name you bles-sed Pe-ter, man of grace.

As com-pa-nion of the an-gels we ac-claim you, Pe-ter bold!
You told Good News to the Gen-tiles, teach-ing them of God-made-Man.
In-ter-cede that we be faith-ful till we all may see God’s face!

Text: JMT
Melody: Ode to Joy (Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827)