

The Line to Heaven

A line to heaven by Christ was made, With heavenly truths the rails are laid
From earth to heaven the line extends And in eternal life it ends
And in eternal life it ends.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Line to Heaven'. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff covers the first line of lyrics, the second staff covers the second line, and the third staff covers the third line. The music is written in a simple, accessible style with clear note heads and stems.

2. The Bible is the First Engineer
It points the way to heaven so clear
Through tunnels dark and dreary there
It does the way to glory steer. (x2)
3. Repentance is the first station there
Where passengers are taken in
No fee for them is there to pay
For Jesus is himself the way (x2)
4. God's love the fire, his grace the steam
Which drives the engine and the train
All you that would to glory ride
Must come to Christ and in him abide.(x2)
5. In the first, second and third class
Repentance, faith and holiness
You must the way to glory gain
Or you with Christ can never reign (x2)
6. Come, poor sinners, now's the time
At any station on the line
If you repent and turn away from sin
The trains will stop and take you in (x2)
7. If all these trains should by you pass
And you are found in neither class
Neither truth, faith, fire, grace nor steam
Can make you willing to get in (x2)
8. Now poor sinners you must weep at last
When heaven is lost and time is past
The heavenly trains are all gone by
And sinners must for ever die (x2)

9. The trains are started and too late
Will be the unbelieving sinner's fate
The carriage doors are fastly closed
And tickets cannot be gained upon the road (x2)
10. The passengers are all inside
Prepared in glory to abide
How sweet their voices! How they sing!
To praise the everlasting king (x2)
11. When all these trains at heaven arrive
And there you did in Christ abide
How sweet their voices! How they sing!
To praise their great eternal king (x2)
12. The king eternal on his throne
Pronounces that the trains are gone
White robes all ready to put on
And Jesus says the words 'Well done!' (x2)

Source: Emily Bishop, Bromsberrow Heath, (no date given), collected by Peter Kennedy