O God of Bethel

Through each perplexing path of life

please guide our wandering footsteps.

Somewhere in that hymn we are all described.

Some people do travel in straight lines

sitting so often in metal boxes

eyes fixed ahead

always mindful of the target,

moving in obedience to coloured and white lines

Some people travel round in circles,

trudging in drudgery,

eyes looking down,

knowing only too well their daily

unchanging round,

moving in response to clock and habit,

journey never finished yet never begun.

We want to travel in patterns of your making

walking in wonder

gazing all around

knowing our destiny

though maybe not our destinations

moving to t he rhythm of the surging of the spirit

a journey which when life ends,

we discover that

in Christ it has just begun

Help us discover that

you are our origin and destination

Travel with us we pray in our pilgrimage of faith

and every journey of our heart

Give us the courage we need to set off

the nourishment we need to travel well

and the welcome we long for at journey’s end

Let us make our way together Lord

wherever you go

we must go too

and through whatever you pass

there too we will pass.

as we grow in grace and love of you

and in the service of others

through Jesus Christ your son, our Lord

who reigns with you and the holy Spirit

One God now and for ever

Amen