\*Sadly the sermon was not recorded. Here are some sketch notes.

Scripture: Acts 27:1–12

A story of sailing beneath the Cliffs of Moher, Ireland, in high waves. Why did we do that?

Given the length of the storm passage, why is it in my Bible? (depending on how you count the section, the whole journey to Rome, Paul imprisoned by Romans or just this journey it amounts to 1/3, ¼ or 1/5 the book of Acts).

Answer without being overly devotional or detail orientated.

Context: recount the map. First takes a smaller coastal vessel and then a larger grain ship. With just 40 miles to go before a winter harbour disaster strikes.

Reasons:

1. A mirror of Jonah (but willing)
2. The journey to Rome motif (like Jesus to Jerusalem)
3. It fulfils Acts 1:8
4. It is part of Paul’s missional call, Acts 19:21, 23:11, for he was an Apostle to the Gentiles and Rome was the epitome of that. How awesome to preach at the centre of the Empire. He desired to go to Rome, Ro 1:13, 15:22.
5. To display God’s *Providentia*, an old Latin word to describe God’s superintending activity, Eph 1:11
   1. Who is in charge, God or Rome?
   2. Not a fatalism (v. 9) but submit to His will
      1. C.f. Macedonian Call, Prison, …Malta
   3. Angel (v. 23) and 23rd Psalm= a test of faith
   4. Peace God’s presence gives amidst lifes storms (my accident story)
   5. How living amidst providence (in this case calmness and faith) effects our witness (273 eyes were on the 3 Christians.

Details (some important details/lessons to note from the text)

1. “we”= Paul, Luke and Aristarchus
2. The detail is the greatest of maritime sources in the ancient world= trustworthiness of the Bible
3. The favour given Paul through Julius (v. 3 and 43). Thank the Lord for favourable arrangements He brings.
4. The danger of listening to the world’s wisdom (vv. 9–10). Paul is not being haughty here but speaking from experience, 2 Cor 11:25

The continued need to trust in God’s providence will continue in the p.m. sermon.