Rev's Reflections

No Kings

No doubt, you've heard it as much as I have. The 3.5% rule.

Based on studies of revolutions across the globe, across centuries, the rule was developed by Harvard professor Erica Chenowith, who asserts that nonviolent resistance campaigns that manage to actively engage at least 3.5% of a population in *sustained protests* have *never failed* to achieve their goals.

The organizers of the national No Kings rallies — thousands of them, all over the United States— want us to show up. It doesn't matter where. It doesn't matter if you are with a group of friends and neighbors, with complete strangers, or standing alone at a remote intersection. It doesn't matter if democracy-loving organizations get recognition. It's not about any of that.

The rally is about getting strength from each other while showing the world that a *substantial* percentage of Americans care that democracy is preserved. What could be more important as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the document that was supposed to separate us from the rule of kings? Forever.

Showing up — anywhere — makes it known that you are part of the masses that will not be silent as one man takes as much power and money as he can get away with.

If you are inclined to join the movement, DO IT. Anywhere. Go to North Kingstown, or East Greenwich if one of them is near your home. Go to Westerly with the folks from Singing

Resistance and the group who practiced in our sanctuary the last two Sundays. Go to Providence to represent the whole state in the biggest crowd.

Just go. Be part of the 3.5% PLUS that changes the course of history.

In Peace,
Rev Denis