

# Prospectus

August 31, 2024



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NYSE Arca | FTRB

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## Federated Hermes Total Return Bond ETF

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A Portfolio of Federated Hermes ETF Trust

A fund seeking to provide total return by investing primarily in U.S. dollar denominated, investment-grade, fixed-income securities.

As with all funds, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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**Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee**

**CONTENTS**

Fund Summary Information..... 1

What are the Fund’s Investment Strategies? ..... 7

What are the Fund’s Principal Investments? ..... 8

What are the Specific Risks of Investing in the Fund? ..... 15

What Do Shares Cost? ..... 24

How Do You Buy and Sell Shares?..... 25

Payments to Financial Intermediaries..... 27

Account and Share Information ..... 27

Who Manages the Fund? ..... 29

Financial Information ..... 31

Appendix A: Hypothetical Investment and Expense Information ..... 33

# Fund Summary Information

## Federated Hermes Total Return Bond ETF (the "Fund")

### RISK/RETURN SUMMARY: INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Fund's investment objective is to provide total return.

### RISK/RETURN SUMMARY: FEES AND EXPENSES

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell the Fund's Shares (Shares). **You may pay other fees, such as brokerage commissions and other fees to financial intermediaries, which are not reflected in the tables and examples below.**

#### Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

Management Fee .....	0.47%
Distribution (12b-1) Fee <sup>1</sup> .....	0.00%
Other Expenses .....	0.05%
Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses .....	0.02%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses .....	0.54%
Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements <sup>2</sup> .....	(0.15)%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements .....	0.39%

1 The Fund has adopted a Distribution (12b-1) Plan pursuant to which the Fund may incur and pay a Distribution (12b-1) Fee of up to a maximum of 0.25%. No such fee is currently incurred and paid by the Fund. The Fund will not incur and pay such a Distribution (12b-1) Fee until such time as approved by the Fund's Board of Trustees ("Trustees").

2 The Adviser and certain of its affiliates have agreed to waive certain amounts of their respective fees and/or reimburse expenses. Total annual fund operating expenses (excluding Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses, interest expense, taxes, litigation expenses, extraordinary expenses and proxy-related expenses, if any) paid by the Fund (after the waivers and/or reimbursements) will not exceed 0.37% (the "Fee Limit") up to but not including the later of (the "Termination Date"): (a) September 1, 2025; or (b) the date of the Fund's next effective Prospectus. These arrangements may only be terminated or the Fee Limit increased prior to the Termination Date with the agreement of the Trustees.

#### Example

This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds.

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 for the time periods indicated and then redeem or hold all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect sales charges (loads) on reinvested dividends. If these sales charges (loads) were included, your costs would be higher. Although your actual costs and returns may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

1 Year	\$ 55
3 Years	\$173
5 Years	\$302
10 Years	\$677

#### Portfolio Turnover

The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in Annual Fund Operating Expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 63% of the average value of its portfolio.

## **RISK/RETURN SUMMARY: INVESTMENTS, RISKS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **What are the Fund's Main Investment Strategies?**

The Fund pursues its investment objective by investing primarily in U.S. dollar denominated, investment-grade, fixed-income securities. In addition, the Fund may invest in high-yield, non-U.S. dollar denominated, and emerging market fixed-income securities when Federated Investment Management Company (the "Adviser") considers the risk-return prospects of those sectors to be attractive. The Fund may invest up to 25% of its total assets in noninvestment-grade debt securities (otherwise known as "junk bonds"). The amount of any unhedged non-U.S. dollar denominated fixed-income securities and foreign currencies in the Fund's portfolio will normally not exceed 10% of the Fund's total assets. The maximum amount that the Fund may invest in non-U.S. dollar denominated fixed-income securities and foreign currencies is 20% of the Fund's total assets. Investment-grade, fixed-income securities are rated in one of the four highest categories (BBB- or higher) by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO). Noninvestment-grade, fixed-income securities are rated in one of the six lowest categories (BB or lower) by a NRSRO, or in either case if unrated, of comparable quality as determined by the Adviser. The Adviser seeks to enhance the Fund's performance by allocating relatively more of its portfolio to the sector that the Adviser expects to offer a better balance between total return and risk and thus offer a greater potential for return. The Fund may invest in derivative contracts (in particular, futures contracts, option contracts and swap contracts) to implement its investment strategies. The Fund may also use derivative contracts to increase or decrease the portfolio's exposure to the investment(s) underlying the derivative in an attempt to benefit from changes in the value of the underlying investment(s). There can be no assurance that the Fund's uses of derivatives contracts will work as intended. Derivative investments made by the Fund are included within the Fund's 80% policy (as described below) and are calculated at market value. The Adviser may lengthen or shorten duration from time to time based on its interest rate outlook, but the Fund has no set duration or maturity parameters. Duration measures the price sensitivity of a fixed-income security to changes in interest rates. The Fund may also invest in inflation-indexed bonds, a type of fixed-income security that is structured to provide protection against inflation.

Certain of the government securities in which the Fund invests are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, such as those issued by the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("Freddie Mac"), the Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae") and the Federal Home Loan Bank System. These entities are, however, supported through federal subsidies, loans or other benefits. The Fund may also invest in government securities that are supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, such as those issued by the Government National Mortgage Association ("Ginnie Mae"). Finally, to a lesser extent, the Fund may invest in certain government securities that are issued by entities whose activities are sponsored by the federal government but that have no explicit financial support.

The Adviser actively manages the Fund's portfolio seeking total returns over longer time periods in excess of the Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index (BAB). The BAB is a composite index of the domestic, investment-grade, fixed-rate bond market, represented by the following sectors: government and credit securities; agency mortgage pass-through securities; asset-backed securities; and commercial mortgage-backed securities. The Adviser utilizes a five-part decision making process, focusing on: (1) duration; (2) yield curve; (3) sector allocation; (4) security selection; and (5) currency management, called the Alpha Pod process. This five-part investment process is designed to capitalize on the depth of experience and focus of each of the Adviser's fixed-income sector teams – government, corporate, mortgage-backed, asset-backed, high-yield and international. First, the Adviser lengthens or shortens portfolio duration from time to time based on its interest rate outlook. Second, the Adviser strategically positions the portfolio based on its expectations for changes in the relative yield of similar securities with different maturities. Third, the Adviser pursues relative value opportunities within the sectors in which the Fund may invest. Fourth, the Adviser selects individual securities within each sector that it believes may outperform a sector-specific index. Fifth, the Adviser monitors currency markets and off-shore macroeconomic and political trends which impact currency markets through interest rate differentials, inflation rates and investment flows. The Fund's Adviser does not have a standard policy weighting to any of the five factors in its decision-making process but instead adjusts them in reacting to market conditions as appropriate.

There can be no assurance that the Adviser will be successful in achieving investment returns in excess of the BAB.

The Fund may sell securities for a variety of reasons such as to secure gains, limit losses, redeploy assets into more promising opportunities or when the Adviser's fundamental view of an issuer or overall market valuations changes.

When selecting investments for the Fund, the Fund can invest in securities directly or in other investment companies, including, for example, funds advised by the Adviser or its affiliates (an "Underlying Fund"), as well as exchange-traded funds. The Underlying Funds may include funds which are not available for general investment by the public. The Underlying Funds in which the Fund invests are managed independently of the Fund and may incur additional expenses. The Fund may invest in mortgage-backed, high-yield and emerging market debt and bank loan Underlying Funds. Certain of these Underlying Funds may hold significant investments in companies whose financial condition is uncertain, where the borrower has defaulted in the payment of interest or principal or in the performance of its covenants or agreements or

that may be involved in bankruptcy proceedings, reorganizations or financial restructurings. In addition, some of the loans in which an Underlying Fund may invest may be “covenant-lite” loans which do not include terms which allow the lender to control and track the performance of the borrower and declare a default if certain criteria are breached. At times, the Fund’s investment in Underlying Funds may be a substantial portion of the Fund’s portfolio.

The Fund will invest its assets so that at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) are invested in fixed-income investments. The Fund will notify shareholders at least 60 days in advance of any change in its investment policy that would enable the Fund to invest, under normal circumstances, less than 80% of its net assets in fixed-income investments.

#### **What are the Main Risks of Investing in the Fund?**

All funds take investment risks. Therefore, it is possible to lose money by investing in the Fund. The primary factors that may reduce the Fund’s returns include:

- **Underlying Fund Risk.** The risk that the Fund’s performance is closely related to the risks associated with the securities and other investments held by Underlying Funds and that the ability of a Fund to achieve its investment objective will depend upon the ability of underlying funds to achieve their respective investment objectives. The Fund bears Underlying Fund fees and expenses indirectly. The Fund may also earn capital gains from sales of shares of Underlying Funds and/or receive distributions of capital gains from Underlying Funds. The Fund distributes any net capital gains earned to Fund shareholders no less frequently than annually. Fund distributions of dividends and capital gains are taxable to you whether paid in cash or reinvested in the Fund. Dividends are taxable at different rates depending on the source of dividend income. Distributions of net short-term capital gains are taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions of the net long-term capital are taxable to you as long-term capital gains regardless of how long you have owned your Shares. Investment companies incur certain expenses, such as management fees and other operating expenses, and, therefore, any investment by the Fund in shares of other investment will be subject to two layers of fees and expenses. However, solely with respect to investments in affiliated Underlying Funds, to avoid charging duplicative management fees, the Adviser will waive and/or reimburse the Fund’s Management Fee in an amount equal to the net management fees charged by affiliated Underlying Funds to the Fund on the Fund’s net assets invested in the Underlying Funds.
- **Issuer Credit Risk.** It is possible that interest or principal on securities will not be paid when due. Noninvestment-grade securities generally have a higher default risk than investment-grade securities. Such non-payment or default may reduce the value of the Fund’s portfolio holdings, its share price and its performance.
- **Interest Rate Risk.** Prices of fixed-income securities generally fall when interest rates rise. The longer the duration of a fixed-income security, the more susceptible it is to interest rate risk. Recent and potential future changes in monetary policy made by central banks and/or their governments are likely to affect the level of interest rates.
- **Call Risk.** Call risk is the possibility that an issuer may redeem a fixed-income security before maturity (a “call”) at a price below or above its current market price. An increase in the likelihood of a call may reduce the security’s price. If a fixed-income security is called, the Fund may have to reinvest the proceeds in other fixed-income securities with lower interest rates, higher credit risks or other less favorable characteristics.
- **Prepayment and Extension Risk.** When homeowners prepay their mortgages in response to lower interest rates, the Fund will be required to reinvest the proceeds at the lower interest rates available. Also, when interest rates fall, the price of mortgage-backed securities (MBS) may not rise to as great an extent as that of other fixed-income securities. When interest rates rise, homeowners are less likely to prepay their mortgages. A decreased rate of prepayments lengthens the expected maturity of a mortgage-backed security, and the price of mortgage-backed securities may decrease more than the price of other fixed-income securities when interest rates rise.
- **Credit Risk.** It is possible that interest or principal on securities will not be paid when due. Such non-payment or default may reduce the value of the Fund’s portfolio holdings, its share price and its performance.
- **Counterparty Risk.** Counterparty risk includes the possibility that a party to a transaction involving the Fund will fail to meet its obligations. This could cause the Fund to lose money or to lose the benefit of the transaction or prevent the Fund from selling or buying other securities to implement its investment strategy.
- **MBS Risk.** A rise in interest rates may cause the value of MBS held by the Fund to decline. These securities may have exposure to borrowers with weakened credit histories, increasing the potential for default (subprime risk). Certain MBS issued by government sponsored enterprises (GSEs) are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. A non-agency MBS is subject to the risk that the value of such security will decline, because the security is not issued or guaranteed as to principal or interest by the U.S. government or a GSE. The Fund’s investments in collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs) may entail greater market, prepayment and liquidity risks than other MBS. The liquidity of non-agency MBS and CMOs may also change dramatically over time.

- **Asset-Backed Securities (ABS) Risk.** The value of asset-backed securities (ABS) may be affected by certain factors, such as interest rate risk, credit risk, prepayment risk and the availability of information concerning the pool of underlying assets and its structure. Under certain market conditions, ABS may be less liquid and may be difficult to value. Movements in interest rates (both increases and decreases) may quickly and significantly reduce the value of certain types of ABS. ABS can also be subject to the risk of default on the underlying assets.
- **Liquidity Risk.** The fixed-income securities in which the Fund invests may be less readily marketable and may be subject to greater fluctuation in price than other securities. Liquidity risk also refers to the possibility that the Fund may not be able to sell a security or close out a derivative contract when it wants to. If this happens, the Fund could incur losses.
- **Risk of Inflation-Protected Bonds.** The value of inflation-protected bonds is subject to the effects of changes in market interest rates caused by factors other than inflation (“real interest rates”). If interest rates rise due to reasons other than inflation, the Fund’s investment in these bonds may not be protected to the extent that the increase is not reflected in the bond’s inflation measure.
- **Risk of Investing in Loans.** In addition to the risks generally associated with debt instruments, such as credit, market, interest rate, liquidity and derivatives risks, bank loans are also subject to the risk that the value of the collateral securing a loan may decline, be insufficient to meet the obligations of the borrower or be difficult to liquidate. The Fund’s access to the collateral may be limited by bankruptcy, other insolvency laws or by the type of loan the Fund has purchased. For example, if the Fund purchases a participation instead of an assignment, it would not have direct access to collateral of the borrower. As a result, a floating rate loan may not be fully collateralized and can decline significantly in value. Additionally, collateral on loan instruments may consist of assets that may not be readily liquidated, and there is no assurance that the liquidation of such assets will satisfy a borrower’s obligations under the instrument. Loans generally are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale. Loans and other forms of direct indebtedness may be structured such that they are not securities under securities laws and subject securities laws protections against fraud and misrepresentation. While there can be no assurance that fraud or misrepresentation will not occur with respect to the loans and other investments in which the Fund invests, the Fund relies on the Adviser’s research in an attempt to seek to avoid situations where fraud or misrepresentation could adversely affect the Fund.
- **Loan Liquidity Risk.** Loans generally are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale. The liquidity of loans, including the volume and frequency of secondary market trading in such loans, varies significantly over time and among individual loans. Transactions in loan instruments may take longer than seven days to settle. This could pose a liquidity risk to the Fund and, if the Fund’s exposure to such investments is substantial, could impair the Fund’s ability to meet shareholder redemptions in a timely manner. Loan instruments may not be readily marketable and may be subject to restrictions on resale. In some cases, negotiations involved in disposing of loans may require weeks to complete.
- **Loan Prepayment Risk.** During periods of declining interest rates or for other purposes, borrowers may exercise their option to prepay principal earlier than scheduled which may force the Fund to reinvest in lower-yielding instruments.
- **Agent Insolvency Risk.** In a syndicated loan, the agent bank is the bank in the syndicate that undertakes the bulk of the administrative duties involved in the day-to-day administration of the loan. In the event of the insolvency of an agent bank, a loan could be subject to settlement risk as well as the risk of interruptions in the administrative duties performed in the day-to-day administration of the loan (such as processing interest rate calculations, processing draws, pursuing certain available contractual remedies, etc.).
- **Risk Associated with Noninvestment-Grade Securities.** Securities rated below investment grade may be subject to greater interest rate, credit and liquidity risks than investment-grade securities. These securities are considered speculative with respect to the issuer’s ability to pay interest and repay principal.
- **Risk Related to the Economy.** The value of the Fund’s portfolio may decline in tandem with a drop in the overall value of the markets in which the Fund invests and/or other markets. Economic, political and financial conditions, industry or economic trends and developments or public health risks, such as epidemics or pandemics, may, from time to time, and for varying periods of time, cause the Fund to experience volatility, illiquidity, shareholder redemptions, or other potentially adverse effects. Among other investments, lower-grade bonds may be particularly sensitive to changes in the economy.
- **Risk of Foreign Investing.** Because the Fund invests in securities issued by foreign companies and national governments, the Fund’s share price may be more affected by foreign economic and political conditions, taxation policies and accounting and auditing standards than would otherwise be the case.
- **Currency Risk.** Exchange rates for currencies fluctuate daily. Accordingly, the Fund may experience increased volatility with respect to the value of its Shares and its returns as a result of its exposure to foreign currencies through direct holding of such currencies or holding of non-U.S. dollar denominated securities.

- **European Union and Eurozone Related Risk.** A number of countries in the European Union (EU), including certain countries within the EU that have adopted the euro (Eurozone), have experienced, and may continue to experience, severe economic and financial difficulties. Additional countries within the EU may also fall subject to such difficulties. These events could negatively affect the value and liquidity of the Fund’s investments in euro-denominated securities and derivatives contracts, securities of issuers located in the EU or with significant exposure to EU issuers or countries.
- **Risk of Investing in Emerging Market Countries.** Securities issued or traded in emerging markets generally entail greater risks than securities issued or traded in developed markets. Emerging market economies may also experience more severe downturns (with corresponding currency devaluations) than developed economies. Securities markets within emerging market countries may experience low or non-existent trading volume, resulting in a lack of liquidity and increased volatility in prices for such securities. Political and economic structures in emerging market countries generally lack the social, political and economic stability of developed countries, which may affect the value of the Fund’s investments in these countries. There may be less publicly available information about issuers in more developed capital markets, and such issuers may not be subject to accounting, auditing, and financial reporting standards comparable to those to which U.S. companies are subject.
- **Leverage Risk.** Leverage risk is created when an investment exposes the Fund to a level of risk that exceeds the amount invested. Changes in the value of such an investment magnify the Fund’s risk of loss and potential for gain.
- **Risk of Investing in Derivative Contracts.** Derivative contracts involve risks different from, or possibly greater than, risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. Specific risk issues related to the use of such contracts include valuation and tax issues, increased potential for losses and/or costs to the Fund and a potential reduction in gains to the Fund. Each of these issues is described in greater detail in this Prospectus. Derivative contracts may also involve other risks described in this Prospectus, such as stock market, interest rate, credit, currency, liquidity and leverage risks.
- **Risk of Loss after Redemption.** The Fund may also invest in trade finance loan instruments primarily by investing in other investment companies (which are not available for general investment by the public) that owns those instruments and that are advised by an affiliate of the Adviser and is structured as an extended payment fund (EPF). In the EPF, the Fund, as shareholder, will bear the risk of investment loss during the period between when shares of such EPF are presented to the transfer agent of the EPF for redemption and when the net asset value of the EPF is determined for payment of the redeemed EPF shares (the “Redemption Pricing Date”).
- **ETF Risk.** As an ETF, the Fund is subject to the following risks:
  - **Authorized Participants Concentration Risk.** To the extent that the Fund invests in instruments that trade outside of a collateralized settlement system, it may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as Authorized Participants. To the extent they cannot or are otherwise unwilling to engage in creation and redemption transactions with the Fund and no other Authorized Participant steps in, trading in Shares of the Fund may be significantly diminished, bid-ask spreads may widen, and the market price of Shares may represent a significant discount to net asset value (NAV). Shares may also face delisting from the Exchange.

**Premium/Discount Risk.** There may be times when the market price of the Fund’s Shares is more than the NAV intra-day (i.e., the market price represents a premium to NAV) or less than the NAV intra-day (i.e., the market price represents a discount to NAV) and when bid-ask spreads widen. As a result, shareholders of the Fund may pay more than NAV when purchasing Shares and receive less than NAV when selling Fund Shares. This risk is heightened in times of market volatility and in steep market declines. In addition, a Fund’s end-of-day market price may deviate from its NAV to the extent that the Fund invests in foreign securities whose local trading markets close before the U.S. market closes because, although the Fund may value such securities at their local market closing prices for purposes of calculating NAV, the broader market may assign them a different value, including due to after-hours developments in their local markets, which may be reflected in the market price of Shares.

**Secondary Market Trading Risk.** Investors buying or selling Shares in the secondary market will normally pay brokerage commissions, which are often a fixed amount and may be a significant proportional cost for investors buying or selling relatively small amounts of Shares. Secondary market trading is subject to bid-ask spreads and trading in Fund Shares may be halted by the Exchange because of market conditions or other reasons. If a trading halt occurs, a shareholder may temporarily be unable to purchase or sell Shares of the Fund. In addition, although the Fund’s Shares are listed on the Exchange, there can be no assurance that an active trading market for Shares will develop or be maintained, that bid-ask spreads will be narrow, or that the Fund’s Shares will continue to be listed.

**Cash Transactions Risk.** Like other ETFs, the Fund sells and redeems its Shares only in large blocks called Creation Units and only to Authorized Participants. Unlike most other ETFs, however, the Fund expects to effect its creations and redemptions at least partially or fully for cash, rather than in-kind securities. As a result, an investment in the Fund may incur certain costs, including brokerage costs in connection with investing cash received and may recognize capital gains in connection with cash redemptions, unlike an ETF that effects creations and redemptions only in-kind. In addition, costs could be imposed on the Fund which would have the effect of decreasing the Fund's net asset value to the extent the costs are not offset by a transaction fee payable by an Authorized Participant.

- **Sector Risk.** Companies with similar characteristics may be grouped together in broad categories called sectors. Sector risk is the possibility that a certain sector may underperform other sectors or the market as a whole. As the Adviser allocates more of the Fund's portfolio holdings to a particular sector, the Fund's performance will be more susceptible to any economic, business or other developments which generally affect that sector.
- **Technology Risk.** The Adviser uses various technologies in managing the Fund, consistent with its investment objective and strategy described in this prospectus. For example, proprietary and third-party data and systems are utilized to support decision making for the Fund. Data imprecision, software or other technology malfunctions, programming inaccuracies and similar circumstances may impair the performance of these systems, which may negatively affect Fund performance.

The Shares offered by this Prospectus are not deposits or obligations of any bank, are not endorsed or guaranteed by any bank and are not insured or guaranteed by the U.S. government, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency.

#### **PERFORMANCE: BAR CHART AND TABLE**

A performance bar chart and total return information for the Fund will be provided after the Fund has been in operation for a full calendar year. Updated performance information for the Fund is available under the "Products" section at [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://FederatedHermes.com/us) or by calling 1-800-341-7400.

#### **FUND MANAGEMENT**

The Fund's Investment Adviser is Federated Investment Management Company.

The Fund's portfolio managers are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund.

Donald T. Ellenberger, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since its inception in December of 2023.

Nathan H. Kehm, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since its inception in December of 2023.

Jerome D. Conner, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since its inception in December of 2023.

#### **PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

The Fund is an exchange-traded fund (ETF). Individual Fund Shares may only be purchased and sold on a national securities exchange through a broker-dealer and may not be purchased or redeemed directly with the Fund. The price of Fund Shares is based on market price, and because ETF shares trade at market prices rather than net asset value (NAV), Shares may trade at a price greater than NAV (a premium) or less than NAV (a discount). An investor may incur costs attributable to the difference between the highest price a buyer is willing to pay to purchase shares of a Fund ("bid") and the lowest price a seller is willing to accept for shares ("ask") when buying or selling shares in the secondary market (the "bid-ask spread"). Recent information, including information about the Fund's NAV, market price, premiums and discounts, and bid-ask spreads, is included on the Fund's website at [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://FederatedHermes.com/us).

#### **TAX INFORMATION**

The Fund's distributions are taxable as ordinary income or capital gains except when your investment is through a 401(k) plan, an Individual Retirement Account or other tax-advantaged investment plan.

#### **PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES**

If you purchase the Fund through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the Fund and/or its related companies may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund Shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your salesperson to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.



## What are the Fund's Investment Strategies?

The Fund is an actively managed exchange-traded fund (ETF), and the Shares of the Fund are listed for trading on NYSE Arca. The market price for a Share of the Fund may be different from the Fund's most recent net asset value (NAV). ETFs are funds that trade like other publicly traded securities. Unlike shares of a mutual fund, which can be bought and redeemed from the issuing fund by all shareholders at a price based on NAV, Shares of the Fund may be purchased or redeemed directly from the Fund at NAV solely by Authorized Participants. Also, unlike shares of a mutual fund, Shares of the Fund are listed on a national securities exchange and trade in the secondary market at market prices that change throughout the day.

The Fund's investment objective is to provide total return. The investment objective can be changed by the Fund's board without shareholder approval. While there is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective, it endeavors to do so by following the principal strategies and policies described in this Prospectus. The Fund's Statement of Additional Information (SAI) provides information about the Fund's non-principal strategies.

The Fund pursues its investment objective by investing primarily in U.S. dollar denominated, investment-grade, fixed-income securities. In addition, the Fund may invest in high-yield, non-U.S. dollar denominated, and emerging market fixed-income securities when Federated Investment Management Company (the "Adviser") considers the risk-return prospects of those sectors to be attractive.

The Fund may invest up to 25% of its total assets in noninvestment-grade debt securities (otherwise known as "junk bonds"). The amount of any unhedged, non-U.S. dollar denominated, fixed-income securities and foreign currencies in the Fund's portfolio will normally not exceed 10% of the Fund's total assets. The maximum amount that the Fund may invest in non-U.S. dollar denominated, fixed-income securities and foreign currencies is 20% of the Fund's total assets. When pursuing a strategy of investing in foreign securities, the Fund may buy or sell foreign currencies in lieu of or in addition to non-U.S. dollar denominated, fixed-income securities in order to increase or decrease its exposure to foreign interest rate and/or currency markets. The Fund may also invest in inflation-indexed bonds, a type of fixed-income security that is structured to provide protection against inflation. A description of the various types of securities in which the Fund principally invests, and their risks, immediately follows this strategy section.

The Adviser actively manages the Fund's portfolio seeking total returns over longer time periods in excess of the Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index (BAB). The BAB is a composite index of the domestic, investment-grade, fixed-rate bond market, represented by the following sectors: government and credit securities; agency mortgage pass-through securities; asset-backed securities; and commercial mortgage-backed securities. There can be no assurance that the Adviser will be successful in achieving investment returns in excess of the BAB.

The Adviser utilizes a five-part decision making process, called the Alpha Pod Process, focusing on: (1) duration; (2) yield curve; (3) sector allocation; (4) security selection; and (5) currency management. Specifically:

- First, the Adviser lengthens or shortens portfolio duration from time to time based on its interest rate outlook, but the Fund has no set duration or maturity parameters. "Duration" measures the sensitivity of a security's price to changes in interest rates. The greater a portfolio's average duration, the greater the change in the portfolio's value in response to a change in market interest rates.
- Second, the Adviser strategically positions the portfolio based on its expectations for changes in the relative yield of similar securities with different maturities (frequently referred to as a "yield curve"). The Adviser tries to combine individual portfolio securities with different durations to take advantage of relative changes in interest rates. Relative changes in interest rates may occur whenever longer-term interest rates move more, less or in a different direction than shorter-term interest rates.
- Third, the Adviser pursues relative value opportunities within the sectors in which the Fund may invest. The Fund primarily invests in the "core" sectors of the domestic investment-grade debt market represented in the BAB. However, the Fund may also invest a portion of its assets in noninvestment-grade debt securities and non-U.S. dollar denominated debt securities. The Adviser may hedge its investment returns from securities denominated in foreign currencies. A currency hedge is a transaction intended to remove the influence of currency fluctuations on investment returns. This aspect of the Fund's four part decision making process exposes investors to additional risks, which include credit risk, interest rate risk, currency risk and risks of foreign investing.
- Fourth, the Adviser selects individual securities within each sector that it believes may outperform a sector-specific index. For example, the Adviser employs fundamental analysis to identify corporate debt securities within specific credit quality constraints. Similarly, with respect to mortgage-backed debt securities, the Adviser utilizes sophisticated models to analyze specific characteristics of the underlying pool of mortgages and target available securities in the sector.

- Finally, the Adviser monitors currency markets and off-shore macroeconomic and political trends which impact the currency markets through interest rate differentials, inflation rates and investments flows. These fundamental factors and technical factors are combined to establish near-term and long-term trading ranges for various currency pairs. When the Adviser views a specific currency pair valuation as overvalued or undervalued, it tries to generate additional alpha from the potential mispricing.

This five-part investment process is designed to capitalize on the depth of experience and focus of each of the Adviser's fixed-income sector teams – government, corporate, mortgage-backed, asset-backed, high-yield and international. The Fund's Adviser does not have a standard policy weighting to any of the five factors in its decision-making process but instead adjusts them in reacting to market conditions as appropriate.

The Fund may use derivative contracts (in particular, futures contracts, option contracts and swap contracts) to implement elements of its investment strategy. For example, the Fund may use derivative contracts to increase or decrease the portfolio's exposure to the investment(s) underlying the derivative in an attempt to benefit from changes in the value of the underlying investment(s). Additionally, by way of example, the Fund may use derivative contracts in an attempt to:

- increase or decrease the effective duration of the Fund portfolio;
- seek to benefit from anticipated changes in the volatility of designated assets or instruments, such as indices, currencies and interest rates (volatility is a measure of the frequency and level of changes in the value of an asset or instrument without regard to the direction of such changes);
- obtain premiums from the sale of derivative contracts;
- realize gains from trading a derivative contract; or
- hedge against potential losses.

There can be no assurance that the Fund's use of derivative contracts will work as intended. Derivative investments made by the Fund are included within the Fund's 80% policy (as described below) and are calculated at market value.

The Fund may sell securities for a variety of reasons such as to secure gains, limit losses, redeploy assets into more promising opportunities or when the Adviser's fundamental view of an issuer or overall market valuations changes.

When selecting investments for the Fund, the Fund can invest in securities directly or in other investment companies, including, for example, funds advised by the Adviser or its affiliates (an "Underlying Fund"), as well as exchange-traded funds. The Underlying Funds may include funds which are not available for general investment by the public. The Underlying Funds in which the Fund invests are managed independently of the Fund and may incur additional expenses. The Fund may invest in mortgage-backed, high-yield and emerging market debt and bank loan Underlying Funds. Certain of these Underlying Funds may hold significant investments in companies whose financial condition is uncertain, where the borrower has defaulted in the payment of interest or principal or in the performance of its covenants or agreements or that may be involved in bankruptcy proceedings, reorganizations or financial restructurings. In addition, some of the loans in which an Underlying Fund may invest may be "covenant-lite" loans which do not include terms which allow the lender to control and track the performance of the borrower and declare a default if certain criteria are breached. At times, the Fund's investment in Underlying Funds may be a substantial portion of the Fund's portfolio.

The Fund will invest its assets so that at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) are invested in fixed-income investments. The Fund will notify shareholders at least 60 days in advance of any change in its investment policy that would enable the Fund to invest, under normal circumstances, less than 80% of its net assets in fixed-income investments.

#### **TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS**

The Fund may temporarily depart from its principal investment strategies by investing its assets in shorter-term debt securities and similar obligations or holding cash. It may do this in response to unusual circumstances, such as: adverse market, economic or other conditions (for example, to help avoid potential losses, or during periods when there is a shortage of appropriate securities); to maintain liquidity to meet shareholder redemptions; or to accommodate cash inflows. It is possible that such investments could affect the Fund's investment returns and/or the ability to achieve the Fund's investment objectives.

### **What are the Fund's Principal Investments?**

The following provides general information on the Fund's principal investments. The Fund's Statement of Additional Information (SAI) provides information about the Fund's non-principal investments and may provide additional information about the Fund's principal investments.

## **FIXED-INCOME SECURITIES**

Fixed-income securities pay interest, dividends or distributions at a specified rate or floating rate. The rate may be a fixed percentage of the principal or may be adjusted periodically. In addition, the issuer of a fixed-income security must repay the principal amount of the security, normally within a specified time. Fixed-income securities provide more regular income than equity securities. However, the returns on fixed-income securities are limited and normally do not increase with the issuer's earnings. This limits the potential appreciation of fixed-income investments as compared to equity securities.

A security's yield measures the annual income earned on a security as a percentage of its price. A security's yield will increase or decrease depending upon whether it costs less (a "discount") or more (a "premium") than the principal amount. If the issuer may redeem the security before its scheduled maturity, the price and yield on a discount or premium security may change based upon the probability of an early redemption. Securities with higher risks generally have higher yields.

The credit risk of an issuer's debt security may also vary based on its priority for repayment. For example, higher ranking ("senior") debt investments have a higher priority than lower ranking ("subordinated") investments. This means that the issuer might not make payments on subordinated investments while continuing to make payments on senior securities. In addition, in the event of bankruptcy, holders of senior investments may receive amounts otherwise payable to the holders of subordinated investments.

The following describes the types of fixed-income securities in which the Fund principally invests.

### **Mortgage-Backed Securities (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)**

A mortgage-backed security (MBS) is a type of pass-through security, which is a pooled debt obligation repackaged as interests that pass principal and interest through an intermediary to investors. In the case of MBS, the ownership interests are issued by a trust and represent participation interests in pools of adjustable and fixed-rate mortgage loans. MBS are most commonly issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government (or one of its agencies or instrumentalities)("agency MBS"), but also may be issued or guaranteed by private entities ("non-agency MBS"). Unlike conventional debt obligations, MBS provide monthly payments derived from the monthly interest and principal payments (including any prepayments) made by the individual borrowers on the pooled mortgage loans. Most MBS make these payments monthly; however, certain MBS are backed by mortgage loans which do not generate monthly payments but rather generate payments less frequently.

The mortgage loan collateral for non-agency MBS consists of residential mortgage loans that do not conform to GSEs underwriting guidelines. Non-agency MBS generally offer a higher yield than agency MBS because there are no direct or indirect government guarantees of payment.

The non-agency and agency MBS acquired by the Fund could be secured by fixed-rate mortgages, adjustable rate mortgages or hybrid adjustable rate mortgages. Adjustable rate mortgages are mortgages whose interest rates are periodically reset when market rates change. A hybrid adjustable rate mortgage ("hybrid ARM") is a type of mortgage in which the interest rate is fixed for a specified period and then resets periodically, or floats, for the remaining mortgage term. Hybrid ARMs are usually referred to by their fixed and floating periods. For example, a "5/1 ARM" refers to a mortgage with a five-year, fixed-interest rate period, followed by 25 annual interest rate adjustment periods.

Investments in MBS expose the Fund to interest rate, prepayment and credit risks.

### **Collateralized Mortgage Obligations (CMOs) (A Type of Mortgage-Backed Security)**

CMOs, including interests in real estate mortgage investment conduits (REMICs), allocate payments and prepayments from an underlying pass-through certificate among holders of different classes of mortgage-backed securities. This creates different prepayment and interest rate risks for each CMO class. The degree of increased or decreased prepayment risks depends upon the structure of the CMOs. However, the actual returns on any type of mortgage-backed security depend upon the performance of the underlying pool of mortgages, which no one can predict and will vary among pools.

### **Non-Governmental Mortgage-Backed Securities (A Type of Mortgage-Backed Security)**

Non-governmental mortgage-backed securities (including non-governmental CMOs) are issued by private entities, rather than by U.S. government agencies. The non-governmental mortgage-backed securities in which the Fund invests will be treated as mortgage-related, asset-backed securities. These securities involve credit risk and liquidity risk. The degree of risks will depend significantly on the ability of borrowers to make payments on the underlying mortgages and the seniority of the security held by the Fund with respect to such payments.

### **Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities (A Type of Mortgage-Backed Security)**

Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) represent interests in mortgage loans on commercial real estate, such as loans for hotels, shopping centers, office buildings and apartment buildings. Generally, the interest and principal payments on these loans are passed on to investors in CMBS according to a schedule of payments. The Fund may invest in individual CMBS issues or, alternately, may gain exposure to the overall CMBS market by investing in a derivative contract, the performance of which is related to changes in the value of a domestic CMBS index. The risks associated with CMBS reflect the risks of investing in the commercial real estate securing the underlying mortgage loans and are therefore different from the risks of other types of MBS. Additionally, CMBS may expose the Fund to interest rate, liquidity and credit risks.

### **Asset-Backed Securities (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)**

Asset-backed securities are payable from pools of obligations other than mortgages. Most asset-backed securities involve consumer or commercial debts with maturities of less than 10 years. However, almost any type of fixed-income assets (including other fixed-income securities) may be used to create an asset-backed security. Asset-backed securities may take the form of commercial paper, notes or pass-through certificates. Asset-backed securities have prepayment risks. Like CMOs, asset-backed securities may be structured like Floaters, Inverse Floaters, IOs and POs.

### **Treasury Securities (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)**

Treasury securities are direct obligations of the federal government of the United States. Treasury securities are generally regarded as having minimal credit risks.

### **Inflation-Protected Securities (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)**

Inflation-protected securities are fixed-income securities whose principal value or interest rate is periodically adjusted according to the rate of inflation. If the index measuring inflation falls (“deflation”), the principal value or interest rate of the securities will be adjusted downward and consequently the interest payable on these securities will be reduced. U.S. Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities, also known as TIPS, are adjusted as to principal; repayment of the original principal upon maturity of the security is guaranteed if the security is purchased when originally issued. With respect to other types of inflation-protected securities that are adjusted to the principal amount, the adjusted principal value of the security repaid at maturity may be less than the original principal. Most other types of inflation-protected securities, however, are adjusted with respect to the interest rate, which has a minimum coupon of 0%, and the principal value does not change.

### **Government Securities (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)**

Government securities are issued or guaranteed by a federal agency or instrumentality acting under federal authority. Some government securities, including those issued by Government National Mortgage Association (“Ginnie Mae”), are supported by the full faith and credit of the United States and are guaranteed only as to the timely payment of interest and principal.

Other government securities receive support through federal subsidies, loans or other benefits, but are not backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. For example, the U.S. Treasury is authorized to purchase specified amounts of securities issued by (or otherwise make funds available to) the Federal Home Loan Bank System, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”) and Federal National Mortgage Association (“Fannie Mae”) in support of such obligations.

Some government agency securities have no explicit financial support and are supported only by the credit of the applicable agency, instrumentality or corporation. The U.S. government has provided financial support to Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, but there is no assurance that it will support these or other agencies in the future.

The Fund treats mortgage-backed securities guaranteed by a federal agency or instrumentality as government securities. Although such a guarantee protects against credit risk, it does not eliminate it entirely or reduce other risks.

### **Corporate Debt Securities (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)**

Corporate debt securities are fixed-income securities issued by businesses. Notes, bonds, debentures and commercial paper are the most prevalent types of corporate debt securities. The Fund may also purchase interests in bank loans to companies. The credit risks of corporate debt securities vary widely among issuers.

In addition, the credit risk of an issuer's debt security may vary based on its priority for repayment. For example, higher ranking ("senior") debt securities have a higher priority than lower ranking ("subordinated") securities. This means that the issuer might not make payments on subordinated securities while continuing to make payments on senior securities. In addition, in the event of bankruptcy, holders of senior securities may receive amounts otherwise payable to the holders of subordinated securities. Some subordinated securities, such as trust-preferred and capital-securities notes, also permit the issuer to defer payments under certain circumstances. For example, insurance companies issue securities known as surplus notes that permit the insurance company to defer any payment that would reduce its capital below regulatory requirements.

#### **Loan Instruments (A Fixed-Income Security)**

The Fund may invest in loan (and loan-related) instruments, which are interests in amounts owed by a corporate, governmental or other borrower to lenders or groups of lenders known as lending syndicates (loans and loan participations). Such instruments, include, but are not limited to, interests in trade finance loan transactions, pre-export/import finance transactions, factoring, syndicated loan transactions and forfaiting transactions. Investments in certain loans have additional risks that result from the use of agents and other interposed financial institutions. Such loans are structured and administered by a financial institution (e.g., a commercial bank) that acts as the agent of the lending syndicate. The agent bank, which may or may not also be a lender, typically administers and enforces the loan on behalf of the lenders in the lending syndicate. In addition, an institution, typically but not always the agent bank, holds the collateral, if any, on behalf of the lenders. A financial institution's employment as an agent bank might be terminated for a number of reasons, for example, in the event that it fails to observe a requisite standard of care or becomes insolvent. A successor agent bank would generally be appointed to replace the terminated agent bank, and assets held by the agent bank under the loan agreement likely would remain available to holders of such indebtedness. However, if assets held by the agent bank for the benefit of the Fund were determined to be subject to the claims of the agent bank's general creditors, the Fund might incur certain costs and delays in realizing payment on a loan or loan participation and could suffer a loss of principal and/or interest. In situations involving other interposed financial institutions (e.g., an insurance company or government agency) similar risks may arise.

Loan instruments may be secured or unsecured. If secured, then the lenders have been granted rights to specific property (such as receivables, tangible goods, real property or commodities), which is commonly referred to as collateral. The purpose of securing a loan is to allow the lenders to exercise their rights over the collateral if the loan is not repaid as required by the terms of lending agreement. Unsecured loans expose the lenders to increased credit risk.

Trade finance is a long established form of commercial financing that involves providing producers, traders, distributors and end users with short- and medium-term loans or other forms of debt obligation. Trade finance is a major loan asset class for many of the world's commercial banks and trade finance is an important source of funding in emerging markets. For emerging economies that are exporters of commodities, payments made in advance and prior to export sale ("pre-export finance") provide a way for banks and other lenders to lend to local producers against future earnings. Trade finance also seeks to finance the industrialization of these economies in the form of project-finance and project-related finance lending. This lending activity is supported by commercial banks, export credit agencies as well as multilateral agencies. Imports that are financed will include productions inputs, inventory and plant and equipment. Many transactions of this type facilitate import substitution or provide future enhancement of export generation.

The loan instruments in which the Fund may invest may involve borrowers, agent banks, co-lenders and collateral located both in the United States and outside of the United States (in both developed and emerging markets).

The Fund treats loan instruments as a type of fixed-income security. Investments in loan instruments may expose the Fund to interest rate risk, risks of investing in foreign securities, credit risk, liquidity risk, risks of noninvestment-grade securities, risks of emerging markets and leverage risk. (For purposes of the descriptions in this Prospectus of these various risks, references to "issuer," include borrowers in loan instruments.) Many loan instruments incorporate risk mitigation and insurance products into their structures, in order to manage these risks. There is no guarantee that these risk management techniques will work as intended.

#### **Floating-Rate Loans (A Loan Instrument)**

Floating-rate loans are loan instruments that have interest rates that reset periodically. Most floating-rate loans are secured by specific collateral of the borrower and are senior to most other securities of the borrower (e.g., common stock or debt instruments) in the event of bankruptcy. Floating-rate loans are often issued in connection with recapitalizations, acquisitions, leveraged buyouts and refinancing. Floating-rate loans are typically structured and administered by a financial institution that acts as the agent of the lenders participating in the floating-rate loan. Floating-rate loans may be acquired directly through the agent, as an assignment from another lender who holds a direct interest in the floating-rate loan, or as a participation interest in another lender's portion of the floating-rate loan.

### **Lower-Rated, Fixed-Income Securities**

Lower-rated, fixed-income securities are securities rated below investment grade (i.e., BB or lower) by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO). There is no minimal acceptable rating for a security to be purchased or held by the Fund and the Fund may purchase or hold unrated securities and debt instruments whose issuers are in default.

### **FOREIGN SECURITIES**

Foreign securities are securities of issuers based outside the United States. To the extent a Fund invests in securities included in its applicable broad-based securities market index, the Fund may consider an issuer to be based outside the United States if the applicable index classifies the issuer as based outside the United States. Accordingly, the Fund may consider an issuer to be based outside the United States if the issuer satisfies at least one, but not necessarily all, of the following:

- it is organized under the laws of, or has its principal office located in, another country;
- the principal trading market for its securities is in another country;
- it (directly or through its consolidated subsidiaries) derived in its most current fiscal year at least 50% of its total assets, capitalization, gross revenue or profit from goods produced, services performed or sales made in another country; or
- it is classified by an applicable index as based outside the United States.

Foreign securities are primarily denominated in foreign currencies. Along with the risks normally associated with domestic securities of the same type, foreign securities are subject to currency risks and risks of foreign investing. Trading in certain foreign markets is also subject to liquidity risks.

### **Foreign Exchange Contracts**

In order to convert U.S. dollars into the currency needed to buy a foreign security, or to convert foreign currency received from the sale of a foreign security into U.S. dollars, the Fund may enter into spot currency trades. In a spot trade, the Fund agrees to exchange one currency for another at the current exchange rate. The Fund may also enter into derivative contracts in which a foreign currency is an underlying asset. The exchange rate for currency derivative contracts may be higher or lower than the spot exchange rate. Use of these derivative contracts may increase or decrease the Fund's exposure to currency risks. The Fund may use both spot trades and currency derivatives to increase or decrease its exposure to foreign interest rate and/or currency markets.

### **Foreign Government Securities (A Type of Foreign Fixed-Income Security)**

Foreign government securities generally consist of fixed-income securities supported by national, state or provincial governments or similar political subdivisions. Foreign government securities also include debt obligations of supranational entities, such as international organizations designed or supported by governmental entities to promote economic reconstruction or development, international banking institutions and related government agencies. Examples of these include, but are not limited to, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the "World Bank"), the Asian Development Bank, the European Investment Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Foreign government securities also include fixed-income securities of quasi-governmental agencies that are either issued by entities owned by a national, state or equivalent government or are obligations of a political unit that are not backed by the national government's full faith and credit. Further, foreign government securities include mortgage-related securities issued or guaranteed by national, state or provincial governmental instrumentalities, including quasi-governmental agencies.

### **Foreign Corporate Debt Securities**

The Fund will also invest in high-yield debt securities of foreign corporations. Notes, bonds, debentures, loans and commercial paper are the most prevalent types of corporate debt securities. The credit risks of corporate debt securities vary widely among issuers.

### **DERIVATIVE CONTRACTS**

Derivative contracts are financial instruments that derive their value from underlying securities, commodities, currencies, indices, or other assets or instruments, including other derivative contracts (each a "Reference Instrument" and collectively, "Reference Instruments"). The most common types of derivative contracts are swaps, futures and options, and major asset classes include interest rates, equities, commodities and foreign exchange. Each party to a derivative contract may sometimes be referred to as a "counterparty." Some derivative contracts require payments relating to an actual, future trade involving the Reference Instrument. These types of derivatives are frequently referred to as "physically settled" derivatives. Other derivative contracts require payments relating to the income or returns from, or changes in the market value of, a Reference Instrument. These types of derivatives are known as "cash-settled" derivatives since they require cash payments in lieu of delivery of the Reference Instrument.

Many derivative contracts are traded on exchanges. In these circumstances, the relevant exchange sets all the terms of the contract except for the price. Parties to an exchange-traded derivative contract make payments through the exchange. Most exchanges require traders to maintain margin accounts through their brokers to cover their potential obligations to the exchange. Parties to the contract make (or collect) daily payments to the margin accounts to reflect losses (or gains) in the value of their contracts. This protects traders against a potential default by their counterparty. Trading contracts on an exchange also allows traders to hedge or mitigate certain risks or carry out more complex trading strategies by entering into offsetting contracts.

The Fund may also trade derivative contracts over-the-counter (OTC), meaning off-exchange, in transactions negotiated directly between the Fund and an eligible counterparty, which may be a financial institution. OTC contracts do not necessarily have standard terms, so they may be less liquid and more difficult to close out than exchange-traded derivative contracts. In addition, OTC contracts with more specialized terms may be more difficult to value than exchange-traded contracts, especially in times of financial stress.

The market for swaps and other OTC derivatives was largely unregulated prior to the enactment of federal legislation known as the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”). Regulations enacted by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the “CFTC”) under the Dodd-Frank Act require the Fund to clear certain types of swap contracts (including certain interest rate and credit default swaps) through a central clearinghouse known as a derivatives clearing organization (DCO).

To clear a swap through a DCO, the Fund will submit the contract to, and post margin with, a futures commission merchant (FCM) that is a clearinghouse member. The Fund may enter into the swap with a counterparty other than the FCM and arrange for the contract to be transferred to the FCM for clearing or enter into the contract with the FCM itself. If the Fund must centrally clear a transaction, the CFTC’s regulations also generally require that the swap be executed on a registered exchange (either a designated contract market (DCM) or swap execution facility (SEF)). Central clearing is presently required only for certain swaps; the CFTC is expected to impose a mandatory central clearing requirement for additional derivative instruments over time.

DCOs, DCMs, SEFs and FCMs are all subject to regulatory oversight by the CFTC. In addition, certain derivative market participants that act as market makers and engage in a significant amount of “dealing” activity are also required to register as swap dealers with the CFTC. Among other things, swap dealers are subject to minimum capital requirements and business conduct standards and must also post and collect initial and variation margin on uncleared swaps with certain of their counterparties. Because of this, if the Fund enters into uncleared swaps with any swap dealers, it may be subject to initial and variation margin requirements that could impact the Fund’s ability to enter into swaps in the OTC market, including making transacting in uncleared swaps significantly more expensive.

At this point in time, most of the Dodd-Frank Act has been fully implemented, though a small number of remaining rulemakings are unfinished or are subject to phase-in periods. Any future regulatory or legislative activity would not necessarily have a direct, immediate effect upon the Fund, though it is within the realm of possibility that, upon implementation of these measures or any future measures, they could potentially limit or completely restrict the ability of the Fund to use these instruments as a part of its investment strategy, increase the costs of using these instruments or make them less effective.

Depending on how the Fund uses derivative contracts and the relationships between the market value of a derivative contract and the Reference Instrument, derivative contracts may increase or decrease the Fund’s exposure to the risks of the Reference Instrument and may also expose the Fund to liquidity and leverage risks. OTC contracts also expose the Fund to credit risks in the event that a counterparty defaults on the contract, although this risk may be mitigated by submitting the contract for clearing through a DCO, or certain other factors, such as collecting margin from the counterparty.

As discussed above, a counterparty’s exposure under a derivative contract may in some cases be required to be secured with initial and/or variation margin (a form of “collateral”).

The Fund may invest in a derivative contract if it is permitted to own, invest in, or otherwise have economic exposure to the Reference Instrument. The Fund is not required to own a Reference Instrument in order to buy or sell a derivative contract relating to that Reference Instrument. The Fund may trade in the following specific types and/or combinations of derivative contracts:

#### **Futures Contracts (A Type of Derivative)**

Futures contracts provide for the future sale by one party and purchase by another party of a specified amount of a Reference Instrument at a specified price, date and time. Entering into a contract to buy a Reference Instrument is commonly referred to as buying a contract or holding a long position in the asset. Entering into a contract to sell a Reference Instrument is commonly referred to as selling a contract or holding a short position in the Reference Instrument. Futures contracts are considered to be commodity contracts. The Adviser has claimed an exclusion from the definition of

the term “commodity pool operator” under the Commodity Exchange Act with respect to the Fund, and therefore is not subject to registration or regulation as a commodity pool operator under the Act with respect to the Fund. Futures contracts traded OTC are frequently referred to as forward contracts. The Fund can buy or sell financial futures (such as interest rate futures, index futures and security futures), as well as, currency futures and currency forward contracts.

#### **Option Contracts (A Type of Derivative)**

Option contracts (also called “options”) are rights to buy or sell a Reference Instrument for a specified price (the “exercise price”) during, or at the end of, a specified period. The seller (or “writer”) of the option receives a payment, or premium, from the buyer, which the writer keeps regardless of whether the buyer uses (or exercises) the option. A call option gives the holder (buyer) the right to buy the Reference Instrument from the seller (writer) of the option. A put option gives the holder the right to sell the Reference Instrument to the writer of the option. Options may be bought or sold on a wide variety of Reference Instruments. Options that are written on futures contracts will be subject to margin requirements similar to those applied to futures contracts.

#### **Swap Contracts (A Type of Derivative)**

A swap contract (also known as a “swap”) is a type of derivative contract in which two parties agree to pay each other (swap) the returns derived from Reference Instruments. Swaps do not always involve the delivery of the Reference Instruments by either party, and the parties might not own the Reference Instruments underlying the swap. The payments are usually made on a net basis so that, on any given day, the Fund would receive (or pay) only the amount by which its payment under the contract is less than (or exceeds) the amount of the other party’s payment. Swap agreements are sophisticated instruments that can take many different forms and are known by a variety of names. Common types of swaps in which the Fund may invest include interest rate swaps, caps and floors, total return swaps, credit default swaps, currency swaps and volatility swaps.

#### **Investing in Securities of Other Investment Companies**

The Fund may invest its assets in securities of other investment companies, including exchange-traded funds and the securities of affiliated money market funds, as an efficient means of implementing its investment strategies, managing its uninvested cash and/or other investment reasons consistent with the Fund’s investment objective and investment strategies. The Fund may also invest in mortgage-backed, high-yield and emerging market debt bank loan securities, and trade finance loan instruments primarily by investing in another investment company (which is not available for general investment by the public) that owns those securities and that is advised by an affiliate of the Adviser. The Fund’s investment in the trade finance instruments through these other investment vehicles may expose the Fund to risks of loss after redemption. The Fund may also invest in such securities directly. These other investment companies are managed independently of the Fund and incur additional fees and/or expenses which would, therefore, be borne indirectly by the Fund in connection with any such investment. These investments also can create conflicts of interests for the Adviser to the Fund and the investment adviser to the acquired fund. For example, a conflict of interest can arise due to the possibility that the Adviser to the Fund could make a decision to redeem the Fund’s investment in the acquired fund. In the case of an investment in an affiliated fund, a conflict of interest can arise if, because of the Fund’s investment in the acquired fund, the acquired fund is able to garner more assets, thereby growing the acquired fund and increasing the management fees received by the investment adviser to the acquired fund, which would either be the Adviser or an affiliate of the Adviser. However, the Adviser believes that the benefits and efficiencies of making investments in other investment companies should outweigh the potential additional fees and/or expenses and resulting conflicts of interest. In light of the Fund’s investments in other investment companies, other registered investment companies may be limited in their ability to invest in the Fund.

Section 12(d)(1) of the 1940 Act restricts investments by investment companies in the securities of other investment companies. In light of the Fund’s investments in other investment companies, other registered investment companies may be limited in their ability to invest in the Fund.

#### **OTHER INVESTMENTS, TRANSACTIONS, TECHNIQUES**

##### **Repurchase Agreements**

Repurchase agreements are transactions in which the Fund buys a security from a dealer or bank and agrees to sell the security back at a mutually agreed-upon time and price. The repurchase price exceeds the sale price, reflecting the Fund’s return on the transaction. This return is unrelated to the interest rate on the underlying security. The Fund will enter into repurchase agreements only with banks and other recognized financial institutions, such as securities dealers, deemed creditworthy by the Adviser.

The Fund’s custodian or subcustodian will take possession of the securities subject to repurchase agreements. The Adviser or subcustodian will monitor the value of the underlying security each day to ensure that the value of the security always equals or exceeds the repurchase price.



Repurchase agreements are subject to credit risks.

### **Derivatives Regulation and Asset Coverage**

The regulation of the U.S. and non-U.S. derivatives markets has undergone substantial change in recent years and such change may continue. In addition, effective August 19, 2022, Rule 18f-4 (the “Derivatives Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), replaced the asset segregation framework previously used by funds to comply with limitations on leverage imposed by the 1940 Act. The Derivatives Rule generally mandates that the Fund implement: (i) limits on leverage calculated based value-at-risk (VAR); (ii) a written derivatives risk management program (DRMP) administered by a derivatives risk manager appointed by the Fund’s Board, including a majority of the independent Board members, that is periodically reviewed by the Board; and (iii) new reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

### **Investment Ratings for Investment-Grade Securities**

The Adviser will determine whether a security is investment grade based upon the credit ratings given by one or more NRSROs. For example, S&P Global Ratings, an NRSRO, assigns ratings to investment-grade securities (AAA, AA, A and BBB including modifiers, sub-categories and gradations) based on their assessment of the likelihood of the issuer’s inability to pay interest or principal (default) when due on each security. Lower credit ratings correspond to higher credit risk. If a security has not received a rating, the Fund must rely entirely upon the Adviser’s credit assessment that the security is comparable to investment grade. The presence of a ratings modifier, sub-category, or gradation (for example, a (+) or (-)) is intended to show relative standing within the major rating categories and does not affect the security credit rating for purposes of the Fund’s investment parameters.

If a security is downgraded below the minimum quality grade discussed above, the Adviser will reevaluate the security, but will not be required to sell it.

### **Investment Ratings for Noninvestment-Grade Securities**

Noninvestment-grade securities are rated below BBB- by an NRSRO. These bonds have greater economic, credit and liquidity risks than investment-grade securities.

### **Additional Information Regarding the Security Selection Process**

As part of analysis in its security selection process, among other factors, the Adviser also evaluates whether environmental, social and governance factors could have a positive or negative impact on the risk profiles of many issuers or guarantors in the universe of securities in which the Fund may invest. The Adviser may also consider information derived from active engagements conducted by its in-house stewardship team with certain issuers or guarantors on environmental, social and governance topics. This qualitative analysis does not automatically result in including or excluding specific securities but may be used by Federated Hermes as an additional input in its primary analysis.

## **What are the Specific Risks of Investing in the Fund?**

The following provides general information on the risks associated with the Fund’s principal investments. Any additional risks associated with the Fund’s non-principal investments are described in the Fund’s SAI. The Fund’s SAI also may provide additional information about the risks associated with the Fund’s principal investments.

### **UNDERLYING FUND RISK**

The risk that the Fund’s performance is closely related to the risks associated with the securities and other investments held by Underlying Funds and that the ability of a Fund to achieve its investment objective will depend upon the ability of underlying funds to achieve their respective investment objectives. The Fund bears Underlying Fund fees and expenses indirectly. The Fund may also earn capital gains from sales of shares of Underlying Funds and/or receive distributions of capital gains from Underlying Funds. The Fund distributes any net capital gains earned to Fund shareholders no less frequently than annually. Fund distributions of dividends and capital gains are taxable to you whether paid in cash or reinvested in the Fund. Dividends are taxable at different rates depending on the source of dividend income. Distributions of net short-term capital gains are taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions of the net long-term capital are taxable to you as long-term capital gains regardless of how long you have owned your Shares. Investment companies incur certain expenses, such as management fees and other operating expenses, and, therefore, any investment by the Fund in shares of other investment will be subject to two layers of fees and expenses. However, solely with respect to investments in affiliated Underlying Funds, to avoid charging duplicative management fees, the Adviser will waive and/or reimburse the Fund’s Management Fee in an amount equal to the net management fees charged by affiliated Underlying Funds to the Fund on the Fund’s net assets invested in the Underlying Funds.

## **ISSUER CREDIT RISK**

Credit risk is the possibility that an issuer will default on a debt instrument by failing to pay interest or principal when due. Such non-payment or default may reduce the value of the Fund's portfolio holdings, its share price and its performance.

The leveraged loans in which the Fund invests have a higher default risk than investment-grade debt instruments. Many fixed-income instruments receive credit ratings from NRSROs such as Fitch Rating Service, Moody's Investor Services, Inc. and S&P Global Ratings that assign ratings to securities by assessing the likelihood of an issuer and/or guarantor default. Higher credit ratings correspond to lower perceived credit risk and lower credit ratings correspond to higher perceived credit risk. Credit ratings may be upgraded or downgraded from time to time as an NRSRO's assessment of the financial condition of a party obligated to make payments with respect to such securities and credit risk changes. The impact of any credit rating downgrade can be uncertain. Credit rating downgrades may lead to increased interest rates and volatility in financial markets, which in turn could negatively affect the value of the Fund's portfolio holdings, its share price and its investment performance. Credit ratings are not a guarantee of quality. Credit ratings may lag behind the current financial conditions of the issuer and/or guarantor and do not provide assurance against default or other loss of money. Credit ratings do not protect against a decline in the value of a security. If a security has not received a rating, the Fund must rely entirely upon the Adviser's credit assessment.

The senior secured corporate loans and corporate debt instruments in which the Fund invests generally are subject to less credit risk than unsecured high-yield bonds (also known as "junk bonds"). Leveraged loans often have features that junk bonds generally do not have. They usually are senior obligations of the borrower or issuer, usually are secured by collateral and generally are subject to certain restrictive covenants in favor of the lenders or debt instrument holders that invest in them. Leveraged loans often are issued in connection with highly leveraged transactions. Such transactions include leveraged buyout loans, leveraged recapitalization loans and other types of acquisition financing. These obligations are subject to greater credit risks than other investments including a greater possibility that the borrower may default or enter bankruptcy. Some of these loans may be "covenant lite" loans which do not include terms which allow the lender to control and track the performance of the borrower and declare a default if certain criteria are breached. Below investment-grade ratings (or "junk" ratings) are associated with investments having high risk. In certain cases, investments in leveraged loans with such ratings can present risks similar to investments in junk bonds.

## **INTEREST RATE RISK**

Prices of fixed-income securities rise and fall in response to changes in interest rates. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed-income securities fall. However, market factors, such as the demand for particular fixed-income securities, may cause the price of certain fixed-income securities to fall while the prices of other securities rise or remain unchanged.

The longer the duration of a fixed-income security, the more susceptible it is to interest rate risk. The duration of a fixed-income security may be equal to or shorter than the stated maturity of a fixed-income security. Recent and potential future changes in monetary policy made by central banks and/or their governments are likely to affect the level of interest rates. Duration measures the price sensitivity of a fixed-income security given a change in interest rates. For example, if a fixed-income security has an effective duration of three years, a 1% increase in general interest rates would be expected to cause the security's value to decline about 3% while a 1% decrease in general interest rates would be expected to cause the security's value to increase about 3%.

The impact of interest rate changes on the value of floating rate investments is typically reduced by periodic interest rate resets. Variable and floating rate loans and securities generally are less sensitive to interest rate changes, but may decline in value if their interest rates do not rise as much or as quickly as interest rates in general. Conversely, variable and floating rate loans and securities generally will not increase in value as much as fixed rate debt instruments if interest rates decline.

## **CALL RISK**

Call risk is the possibility that an issuer may redeem a fixed-income security before maturity (a "call") at a price below or above its current market price. An increase in the likelihood of a call may reduce the security's price.

If a fixed-income security is called, the Fund may have to reinvest the proceeds in other fixed-income securities with lower interest rates, higher credit risks or other less favorable characteristics.

## **PREPAYMENT AND EXTENSION RISK**

Unlike traditional fixed-income securities, which pay a fixed rate of interest until maturity (when the entire principal amount is due), payments on mortgage-backed securities include both interest and a partial payment of principal. Partial payment of principal may be comprised of scheduled principal payments as well as unscheduled payments from the voluntary prepayment, refinancing or foreclosure of the underlying loans. These unscheduled prepayments of principal create risks that can adversely affect a fund holding mortgage-backed securities.

For example, when interest rates decline, the values of mortgage-backed securities generally rise. However, when interest rates decline, unscheduled prepayments can be expected to accelerate, and the Fund would be required to reinvest the proceeds of the prepayments at the lower interest rates then available. Unscheduled prepayments would also limit the potential for capital appreciation on mortgage-backed securities.

Conversely, when interest rates rise, the values of mortgage-backed securities generally fall. Since rising interest rates typically result in decreased prepayments, this could lengthen the average lives of mortgage-backed securities, and cause their value to decline more than traditional fixed-income securities.

Generally, mortgage-backed securities compensate for the increased risk associated with prepayments by paying a higher yield. The additional interest paid for risk is measured by the difference between the yield of a mortgage-backed security and the yield of a U.S. Treasury security or other appropriate benchmark with a comparable maturity (the “spread”). An increase in the spread will cause the price of the mortgage-backed security to decline. Spreads generally increase in response to adverse economic or market conditions. Spreads may also increase if the security is perceived to have an increased prepayment risk or is perceived to have less market demand.

#### **CREDIT RISK**

It is possible that interest or principal on securities will not be paid when due. Noninvestment-grade securities generally have a higher default risk than investment-grade securities. Such nonpayment or default may reduce the value of the Fund’s portfolio holdings, its share price and its performance.

Many fixed-income securities receive credit ratings from NRSROs such as Fitch Ratings, Inc., Moody’s Investor Services, Inc. and S&P Global Ratings that assign ratings to securities by assessing the likelihood of an issuer and/or guarantor default. Higher credit ratings correspond to lower perceived credit risk and lower credit ratings correspond to higher perceived credit risk. Credit ratings may be upgraded or downgraded from time to time as an NRSRO’s assessment of the financial condition of a party obligated to make payments with respect to such securities and credit risk changes. The impact of any credit rating downgrade can be uncertain. Credit rating downgrades may lead to increased interest rates and volatility in financial markets, which in turn could negatively affect the value of the Fund’s portfolio holdings, its share price and its investment performance. Credit ratings are not a guarantee of quality. Credit ratings may lag behind the current financial conditions of the issuer and/or guarantor and do not provide assurance against default or other loss of money. Credit ratings do not protect against a decline in the value of a security. If a security has not received a rating, the Fund must rely entirely upon the Adviser’s credit assessment.

Fixed-income securities generally compensate for greater credit risk by paying interest at a higher rate. The difference between the yield of a security and the yield of a U.S. Treasury security or other appropriate benchmark with a comparable maturity (the “spread”) measures the additional interest paid for risk. Spreads may increase generally in response to adverse economic or market conditions. A security’s spread may also increase if the security’s rating is lowered, or the security is perceived to have an increased credit risk. An increase in the spread will cause the price of the security to decline.

Credit risk includes the possibility that a party to a transaction involving the Fund will fail to meet its obligations. This could cause the Fund to lose the benefit of the transaction or prevent the Fund from selling or buying other securities to implement its investment strategy.

#### **COUNTERPARTY RISK**

Counterparty risk includes the possibility that a party to a transaction involving the Fund will fail to meet its obligations. This could cause the Fund to lose money or to lose the benefit of the transaction or prevent the Fund from selling or buying other securities to implement its investment strategy.

#### **MBS RISK**

MBS have unique risks. A rise in interest rates may cause the value of MBS held by the Fund to decline. These securities may have exposure to borrowers with weakened credit histories, increasing the potential for default (subprime risk). The mortgage loans underlying MBS generally are subject to a greater rate of principal prepayments in a declining interest rate environment and to a lesser rate of principal prepayments in an increasing interest rate environment. If the underlying mortgages are paid off sooner than expected, the Fund may have to reinvest this money in mortgage-backed or other securities that have lower yields. Hybrid ARMs also involve special risks. Like ARMs, hybrid ARMs have periodic and lifetime limitations on the increases that can be made to the interest rates that mortgagors pay. Therefore, if during a floating rate period, interest rates rise above the interest rate limits of the hybrid ARM, the Fund will not benefit from further increases in interest rates. See “Prepayment and Extension Risk” and “Interest Rate Risk.” CMOs with complex or highly variable prepayment terms generally entail greater market, prepayment and liquidity risks than other MBS. The liquidity of non-agency MBS and CMOs may also change dramatically over time. For example, their prices are more volatile and their trading market may be more limited.

MBS are subject to the risk that payments made on a security will not be made when due. Payments on MBS are primarily derived from the interest and principal payments of the underlying mortgages. Some MBS also have guarantees or other structural features that provide additional support for interest and principal payments on the MBS if payments on the underlying mortgages are not made. MBS are subject to the risk that the underlying mortgage borrowers fail to make timely payments of interest and principal and that any guarantee or other structural feature, if present, is insufficient to enable the timely payment of interest and principal on the MBS. The structure of certain CMO interests held by the Fund may cause the Fund to be paid interest and/or principal on its investment only after holders of other interests in that particular CMO have received the full repayment of principal or interest on their investments. MBS are most commonly issued or guaranteed by GSEs, but also may be issued or guaranteed by private entities, which generally entail greater risk. Certain MBS issued by GSEs are not backed by or entitled to the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, but are, however, supported through federal subsidies, loans or other benefits. The Fund also may invest in certain MBS issued by GSEs that have no explicit financial support, and are supported only by the credit of the applicable GSEs (in addition to the underlying mortgages and related debt service payments). The U.S. government has provided financial support to Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, but there is no assurance that it will support these or other GSEs in the future. Although certain MBS are guaranteed as to timely payment of interest and principal by a GSE, the market prices for such securities are not guaranteed and will fluctuate.

#### **ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES (ABS) RISK**

The value of asset-backed securities (ABS) may be affected by certain factors such as interest rate risk, the availability of information concerning the pool of underlying assets and its structure, the creditworthiness of the servicing agent for the pool or the originator of the underlying assets and the ability of the servicing agent to service the underlying collateral. Under certain market conditions, ABS may be less liquid and may be difficult to value. Movements in interest rates (both increases and decreases) may quickly and significantly reduce the value of certain types of ABS

#### **LIQUIDITY RISK**

Trading opportunities are more limited for fixed-income securities that have not received any credit ratings, have received any credit ratings below investment grade or are not widely held. Trading opportunities are also more limited for CMOs that have complex terms or that are not widely held. These features may make it more difficult to sell or buy a security at a favorable price or time. Consequently, the Fund may have to accept a lower price to sell a security, sell other securities to raise cash or give up an investment opportunity, any of which could have a negative effect on the Fund's performance. Infrequent trading of securities may also lead to an increase in their price volatility. Noninvestment-grade securities generally have less liquidity than investment-grade securities.

Liquidity risk also refers to the possibility that the Fund may not be able to sell a security or close out a derivative contract when it wants to. If this happens, the Fund will be required to continue to hold the security or keep the position open, and the Fund could incur losses.

OTC derivative contracts generally carry greater liquidity risk than exchange-traded contracts. This risk may be increased in times of financial stress if the trading market for OTC derivative contracts becomes restricted.

#### **RISK OF INFLATION-PROTECTED BONDS**

The value of inflation-protected bonds is subject to the effects of changes in market interest rates caused by factors other than inflation ("real interest rates"). If interest rates rise due to reasons other than inflation, the Fund's investment in these securities may not be protected to the extent that the increase is not reflected in the bond's inflation measure. Generally, when real interest rates rise, the value of inflation-protected bonds will fall and the Fund's value may decline as a result of this exposure to these bonds. The greatest risk occurs when interest rates rise and inflation declines.

#### **RISK OF INVESTING IN LOANS**

In addition to the risks generally associated with debt instruments, such as credit, market, interest rate, liquidity and derivatives risks, bank loans are also subject to the risk that the value of the collateral securing a loan may decline, be insufficient to meet the obligations of the borrower or be difficult to liquidate. The Fund's access to the collateral may be limited by bankruptcy, other insolvency laws or by the type of loan the Fund has purchased. For example, if the Fund purchases a participation instead of an assignment, it would not have direct access to collateral of the borrower. As a result, a floating rate loan may not be fully collateralized and can decline significantly in value. Additionally, collateral on loan instruments may consist of assets that may not be readily liquidated, and there is no assurance that the liquidation of such assets will satisfy a borrower's obligations under the instrument. Loans generally are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale.

Loans and other forms of indebtedness may be structured such that they are not securities under securities laws. As such, it is unclear whether loans and other forms of direct indebtedness offer securities law protections, such as those against fraud and misrepresentation. In the absence of definitive regulatory guidance, while there can be no assurance that fraud or misrepresentation will not occur with respect to the loans and other investments in which the Fund invests, the Fund relies on the Adviser's research in an attempt to seek to avoid situations where fraud or misrepresentation could adversely affect the Fund.

#### **LOAN LIQUIDITY RISK**

Loans generally are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale. The liquidity of loans, including the volume and frequency of secondary market trading in such loans, varies significantly over time and among individual loans. For example, if the credit quality of a loan unexpectedly declines significantly, secondary market trading in that loan can also decline for a period of time. During periods of infrequent trading, valuing a loan can be more difficult and buying and selling a loan at an acceptable price can be more difficult and delayed. Difficulty in selling a loan can result in a loss.

Loan instruments may not be readily marketable and may be subject to restrictions on resale. In some cases, negotiations involved in disposing of loans may require weeks to complete. Thus, transactions in loan instruments may take longer than seven days to settle. This could pose a liquidity risk to the Fund and, if the Fund's exposure to such investments is substantial, could impair the Fund's ability to meet shareholder redemptions in a timely manner.

A majority of the Fund's assets are likely to be invested in assets that are considerably less liquid than debt instruments traded on national exchanges. Market quotations for such assets may be volatile and/or subject to large spreads between bid and ask prices.

#### **LOAN PREPAYMENT RISK**

During periods of declining interest rates or for other purposes, borrowers may exercise their option to prepay principal earlier than scheduled which may force the Fund to reinvest in lower-yielding debt securities.

#### **AGENT INSOLVENCY RISK**

In a syndicated loan, the agent bank is the bank that undertakes the bulk of the administrative duties involved in the day-to-day administration of the loan. In the event of the insolvency of an agent bank, a loan could be subject to settlement risk as well as the risk of interruptions in the administrative duties performed in the day-to-day administration of the loan (such as processing draws, etc.).

#### **RISK ASSOCIATED WITH NONINVESTMENT-GRADE SECURITIES**

Securities rated below investment grade, also known as junk bonds or leveraged loans, generally entail greater economic, credit and liquidity risks than investment-grade securities. For example, their prices are more volatile, economic downturns and financial setbacks may affect their prices more negatively, and their trading market may be more limited. These securities are considered speculative with respect to the issuer's ability to pay interest and repay principal.

#### **RISK RELATED TO THE ECONOMY**

The value of the Fund's portfolio may decline in tandem with a drop in the overall value of the markets in which the Fund invests and/or other markets based on negative developments in the U.S. and global economies. Economic, political and financial conditions, industry or economic trends and developments or public health risks, such as epidemics or pandemics, may, from time to time, and for varying periods of time, cause volatility, illiquidity or other potentially adverse effects in the financial markets, including the fixed-income market. The commencement, continuation or ending of government policies and economic stimulus programs, changes in monetary policy, increases or decreases in interest rates, or other factors or events that affect the financial markets, including the fixed-income markets, may contribute to the development of or increase in volatility, illiquidity, shareholder redemptions and other adverse effects which could negatively impact the Fund's performance. For example, the value of certain portfolio securities may rise or fall in response to changes in interest rates, which could result from a change in government policies, and has the potential to cause investors to move out of certain portfolio securities, including fixed-income securities, on a large scale. This may increase redemptions from funds that hold large amounts of certain securities and may result in decreased liquidity and increased volatility in the financial markets. Market factors, such as the demand for particular portfolio securities, may cause the price of certain portfolio securities to fall while the prices of other securities rise or remain unchanged. Among other investments, lower-grade bonds may be particularly sensitive to changes in the economy.

#### **RISK OF FOREIGN INVESTING**

Foreign securities pose additional risks because foreign economic or political conditions may be less favorable than those of the United States. Securities in foreign markets may also be subject to taxation policies that reduce returns for U.S. investors.

Foreign companies may not provide information (including financial statements) as frequently or to as great an extent as companies in the United States. Foreign companies may also receive less coverage than U.S. companies by market analysts and the financial press. In addition, foreign countries may lack uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards or regulatory requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies. These factors may prevent the Fund and its Adviser from obtaining information concerning foreign companies that is as frequent, extensive and reliable as the information available concerning companies in the United States.

Foreign countries may have restrictions on foreign ownership of securities or may impose exchange controls, capital flow restrictions or repatriation restrictions which could adversely affect the liquidity of the Fund's investments.

Since many loan instruments involve parties (for example, lenders, borrowers and agent banks) located in multiple jurisdictions outside of the United States, there is a risk that a security interest in any related collateral may be unenforceable and obligations under the related loan agreements may not be binding.

#### **CURRENCY RISK**

Exchange rates for currencies fluctuate daily. The combination of currency risk and market risks tends to make securities traded in foreign markets more volatile than securities traded exclusively in the United States. The Adviser attempts to manage currency risk by limiting the amount the Fund invests in securities denominated in a particular currency. However, diversification will not protect the Fund against a general increase in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to other currencies.

Investing in currencies or securities denominated in a foreign currency entails risk of being exposed to a currency that may not fully reflect the strengths and weaknesses of the economy of the country or region utilizing the currency. Currency risk includes both the risk that currencies in which the Fund's investments are traded, or currencies in which the Fund has taken an active investment position, will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar and, in the case of hedging positions, that the U.S. dollar will decline in value relative to the currency being hedged. In addition, it is possible that a currency (such as, for example, the euro) could be abandoned in the future by countries that have already adopted its use, and the effects of such an abandonment on the applicable country and the rest of the countries utilizing the currency are uncertain but could negatively affect the Fund's investments denominated in the currency. If a currency used by a country or countries is replaced by another currency, the Fund's Adviser would evaluate whether to continue to hold any investments denominated in such currency, or whether to purchase investments denominated in the currency that replaces such currency, at the time. Such investments may continue to be held, or purchased, to the extent consistent with the Fund's investment objective(s) and permitted under applicable law.

Many countries rely heavily upon export-dependent businesses and any strength in the exchange rate between a currency and the U.S. dollar or other currencies can have either a positive or a negative effect upon corporate profits and the performance of investments in the country or region utilizing the currency. Adverse economic events within such country or region may increase the volatility of exchange rates against other currencies, subjecting the Fund's investments denominated in such country's or region's currency to additional risks. In addition, certain countries, particularly emerging market countries, may impose foreign currency exchange controls or other restrictions on the transferability, repatriation or convertibility of currency.

#### **EUROPEAN UNION AND EUROZONE RELATED RISK**

A number of countries in the European Union (EU), including certain countries within the EU that have adopted the euro (Eurozone), have experienced, and may continue to experience, severe economic and financial difficulties. Additional countries within the EU may also fall subject to such difficulties. These events could negatively affect the value and liquidity of the Fund's investments in euro-denominated securities and derivatives contracts, securities of issuers located in the EU or with significant exposure to EU issuers or countries. If the euro is dissolved entirely, the legal and contractual consequences for holders of euro-denominated obligations and derivative contracts would be determined by laws in effect at such time. Such investments may continue to be held, or purchased, to the extent consistent with the Fund's investment objective(s) and permitted under applicable law. These potential developments, or market perceptions concerning these and related issues, could adversely affect the value of the Shares.

Certain countries in the EU have had to accept assistance from supra-governmental agencies such as the International Monetary Fund, the European Stability Mechanism (the "ESM") or other supra-governmental agencies. The European Central Bank has also been intervening to purchase Eurozone debt in an attempt to stabilize markets and reduce borrowing costs. There can be no assurance that these agencies will continue to intervene or provide further assistance and markets may react adversely to any expected reduction in the financial support provided by these agencies. Responses to the financial problems by European governments, central banks and others including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences.

In addition, one or more countries may withdraw from the EU, and one or more countries within the Eurozone may abandon the euro. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, could be significant and far-reaching. On January 31, 2020, the United Kingdom (UK) left the EU, commonly referred to as “Brexit,” and there commenced a transition period during which the EU and UK negotiated and agreed on the nature of their future relationship, with such agreements becoming effective on December 31, 2020. There is significant market uncertainty regarding Brexit’s ramifications, and the range and potential implications of possible political, regulatory, economic and market outcomes are difficult to predict. This long-term uncertainty may affect other countries in the EU and elsewhere and may cause volatility within the EU, triggering prolonged economic downturns in certain countries within the EU. In addition, Brexit may create additional and substantial economic stresses for the UK, including a contraction of the UK economy and price volatility in UK stocks, decreased trade, capital outflows, devaluation of the British pound, wider corporate bond spreads due to uncertainty and declines in business and consumer spending as well as foreign direct investment. Brexit may also adversely affect UK-based financial firms, including certain sub-advisers to the Federated Hermes Funds, that have counterparties in the EU or participate in market infrastructure (trading venues, clearinghouses, settlement facilities) based in the EU. These events and the resulting market volatility may have an adverse effect on the performance of the Fund.

#### **RISK OF INVESTING IN EMERGING MARKET COUNTRIES**

Securities issued or traded in emerging markets generally entail greater risks than securities issued or traded in developed countries. Securities markets within emerging market countries may experience low or non-existent trading volume, resulting in a lack of liquidity and increased volatility in prices for such securities, as compared to securities of comparable issuers in more developed countries. Emerging market economies may also experience more severe downturns (with corresponding currency devaluations) than developed economies.

Political and economic structures in emerging market countries generally lack the social, political and economic stability of developed countries, which may affect the value of the Fund’s investments in these countries and also the ability of the Fund to access markets in such countries. Emerging market countries may have relatively unstable governments and may present the risk of nationalization of businesses, expropriation, confiscatory taxation or, in certain instances, reversion to closed market, centrally planned economies.

There may be less publicly available information about issuers in emerging markets than would be available about issuers in more developed capital markets, and such issuers may not be subject to accounting, auditing, and financial reporting standards and requirements comparable to those to which U.S. companies are subject. The laws of emerging market countries relating to the limited liability of corporate shareholders, fiduciary duties of officers and directors and bankruptcy of state enterprises are generally less developed than or different from such laws in the United States. It may be more difficult to make a claim or obtain a judgement in the courts of these countries than it is in the United States.

#### **LEVERAGE RISK**

Leverage risk is created when an investment, which includes, for example, an investment in a derivative contract, exposes the Fund to a level of risk that exceeds the amount invested. Changes in the value of such an investment magnify the Fund’s risk of loss and potential for gain. Investments can have these same results if their returns are based on a multiple of a specified index, security or other benchmark.

#### **RISK OF INVESTING IN DERIVATIVE CONTRACTS**

The Fund’s exposure to derivative contracts (either directly or through its investment in another investment company) involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. First, changes in the value of the derivative contracts in which the Fund invests may not be correlated with changes in the value of the underlying Reference Instruments or, if they are correlated, may move in the opposite direction than originally anticipated. Second, while some strategies involving derivatives may reduce the risk of loss, they may also reduce potential gains or, in some cases, result in losses by offsetting favorable price movements in portfolio holdings. Third, there is a risk that derivative contracts may be erroneously priced or improperly valued and, as a result, the Fund may need to make increased cash payments to the counterparty. Fourth, exposure to derivative contracts may have tax consequences to the Fund and its shareholders. For example, derivative contracts may cause the Fund to realize increased ordinary income or short-term capital gains (which are treated as ordinary income for Federal income tax purposes) and, as a result, may increase taxable distributions to shareholders. In addition, under certain circumstances certain derivative contracts may cause the Fund to: (a) incur an excise tax on a portion of the income related to those contracts; and/or (b) reclassify, as a return of capital, some or all of the distributions previously made to shareholders during the fiscal year as dividend income. Fifth, a common provision in OTC derivative contracts permits the counterparty to terminate any such contract between it and the Fund, if the value of the Fund’s total net assets declines below a specified level over a given time period. Factors that may contribute to such a decline (which usually must be substantial) include significant shareholder redemptions and/or a marked decrease in the market value of the Fund’s investments. Any such termination of the Fund’s OTC derivative contracts may adversely affect the Fund (for example, by increasing losses

and/or costs, and/or preventing the Fund from fully implementing its investment strategies). Sixth, the Fund may use a derivative contract to benefit from a decline in the value of a Reference Instrument. If the value of the Reference Instrument declines during the term of the contract, the Fund makes a profit on the difference (less any payments the Fund is required to pay under the terms of the contract). Any such strategy involves risk. There is no assurance that the Reference Instrument will decline in value during the term of the contract and make a profit for the Fund. The Reference Instrument may instead appreciate in value creating a loss for the Fund. Seventh, a default or failure by a CCP or an FCM (also sometimes called a “futures broker”), or the failure of a contract to be transferred from an Executing Dealer to the FCM for clearing, may expose the Fund to losses, increase its costs, or prevent the Fund from entering or exiting derivative positions, accessing margin, or fully implementing its investment strategies. The central clearing of a derivative and trading of a contract over a SEF could reduce the liquidity in, or increase costs of entering into or holding, any contracts. Finally, derivative contracts may also involve other risks described in this Prospectus, such as interest rate, credit, currency, liquidity and leverage risks.

#### **RISK OF LOSS AFTER REDEMPTION**

The Fund may also invest in trade finance loan instruments primarily by investing in other investment companies (which are not available for general investment by the public) that owns those instruments, and that are advised by an affiliate of the Adviser and are structured as an extended payment fund (EPF). In the EPF, the Fund, as shareholder, will bear the risk of investment loss during the period between when shares of such EPF are presented to the transfer agent of the EPF for redemption and when the net asset value of the EPF is determined for payment of the redeemed EPF shares (the “Redemption Pricing Date”). The time between when EPF shares are presented for redemption and the Redemption Pricing Date will be at least twenty-four (24) calendar days. EPF shares tendered for redemption will participate proportionately in the EPF’s gains and losses during between when EPF shares are presented for redemption and the Redemption Pricing Date. During this time the value of the EPF shares will likely fluctuate and EPF shares presented for redemption could be worth less on the Redemption Pricing Date than on the day the EPF shares were presented to the transfer agent of the EPF for redemption. The EPF has adopted a fundamental policy that may only be changed by shareholder vote, that the Redemption Pricing Date will fall no more than twenty-four (24) days after the date the Fund, as shareholder, presents EPF shares for redemption in good order. If such date is a weekend or holiday, the Redemption Pricing Date will be on the preceding business day.

The EPF also imposes significant limitations on the size and timing of redemptions by the Fund such that the Fund may experience delays in excess of nine months from the time that it requests a redemption to the time that such redemption is processed. Additionally, the redemption will be subject to a redemption fee based upon a percentage of the value of the ownership interests in the EPF redeemed by the Fund. The Fund may also be required to remain invested in the EPF for a substantially longer period of time, if the size of its redemption request exceeds certain ownership levels determined at the discretion of the EPF’s management. The Fund will bear the risk of investment loss during the period between when shares of the EPF are presented to the EPF for redemption and the Redemption Pricing Date. During this time the value of the EPF shares will likely fluctuate and EPF shares presented for redemption could be worth less on the day that they are priced for redemption than on the day the EPF shares were presented to the EPF for redemption.

#### **ETF RISK**

As an ETF, the Fund is subject to the following risks:

**Authorized Participants Concentration Risk.** To the extent that the Fund invests in instruments that trade outside of a collateralized settlement system, it may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as Authorized Participants. To the extent they cannot or are otherwise unwilling to engage in creation and redemption transactions with the Fund and no other Authorized Participant steps in, trading in Shares of the Fund may be significantly diminished, bid-ask spreads may widen, and the market price of Shares may represent a significant discount to net asset value (NAV). Shares may also face delisting from the Exchange.

**Premium/Discount Risk.** The NAV of the Fund’s Shares will generally fluctuate with changes in the market value of the Fund’s securities holdings. The market prices of Fund Shares will generally fluctuate in accordance with changes in the Fund’s NAV and supply and demand of Shares on the secondary market. It cannot be predicted whether Fund Shares will trade below, at or above their NAV, and when bid-ask spreads widen. As a result, shareholders of the Fund may pay more than NAV when purchasing Shares and receive less than NAV when selling Fund Shares. This risk is heightened in times of market volatility and steep market declines, particularly to the extent that the Fund’s portfolio holdings are or become illiquid. In such market conditions, market or stop-loss orders to sell the ETF Shares may be executed at market prices that are significantly below that day’s NAV, as subsequently calculated. In addition, Authorized Participants and/or market makers in the Fund’s Shares may step away from the market, resulting in a disruption to creations and redemptions, which may result in trading prices that differ significantly from the Fund’s NAV. In addition, market prices of Fund Shares may deviate significantly from the NAV if the number of Fund Shares outstanding is small, such that there is less active trading in Fund Shares. Investors purchasing and selling Fund Shares in the secondary market may not experience investment results consistent with those experienced by



those creating and redeeming directly with the Fund. In addition, the Fund's end-of-day market price may deviate from its NAV to the extent that the Fund invests in foreign securities whose local trading markets close before the U.S. market closes because, although the Fund may value such securities at their local market closing prices for purposes of calculating NAV, the broader market may assign them a different value, including due to after-hours developments in their local markets, which may be reflected in the market price of Shares.

**Secondary Market Trading Risk.** Investors buying or selling Shares in the secondary market will normally pay brokerage commissions, which are often a fixed amount and may be a significant proportional cost for investors buying or selling relatively small amounts of Shares. In addition, secondary market investors will incur the cost of the difference between the price that an investor is willing to pay for Shares (the bid price) and the price at which an investor is willing to sell Shares (the ask price). This difference in bid and ask prices is often referred to as the "spread" or "bid/ask spread." The bid/ask spread varies over time for Shares based on trading volume and market liquidity, and is generally lower if the Fund's Shares have more trading volume and market liquidity and higher if the Fund's Shares have little trading volume and market liquidity. Increased market volatility may cause increased bid/ask spreads.

Although Fund Shares are listed for trading on the Exchange, there can be no assurance that an active trading market for such Shares will develop or be maintained, that bid-ask spreads will be narrow, or that the Fund's Shares will continue to be listed. Trading in Fund Shares may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to Exchange "circuit breaker" rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of the Exchange necessary to maintain the listing of any Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged or that the Shares will trade with any volume, or at all.

**Cash Transactions Risk.** Like other ETFs, the Fund sells and redeems its Shares only in large blocks called Creation Units and only to Authorized Participants. Unlike most other ETFs, however, the Fund expects to effect its creations and redemptions at least partially or fully for cash, rather than in-kind securities.

Other ETFs generally are able to make in-kind redemptions and avoid realizing gains in connection with redemption requests. Effecting redemptions for cash may cause the Fund to sell portfolio securities in order to obtain the cash needed to distribute redemption proceeds. Such dispositions may occur at an inopportune time, resulting in potential losses to the Fund or difficulties in meeting shareholder redemptions, and involve transaction costs. If the Fund recognizes gain on these sales, this generally will cause the Fund to recognize gain it might not otherwise have recognized if it were to distribute portfolio securities in-kind or to recognize such gain sooner than would otherwise have been required. The Fund generally intends to distribute these gains to shareholders to avoid being taxed on this gain at the Fund level and otherwise comply with the special tax rules that apply to it. This strategy may cause shareholders to be subject to tax on gains they would not otherwise be subject to, or at an earlier date than, if they had made an investment in another ETF.

In addition, cash transactions may have to be carried out over several days if the securities market in which the Fund is trading is less liquid and may involve considerable transaction expenses and taxes. These brokerage fees and taxes, which will be higher than if the Fund sold and redeemed its Shares principally in-kind, may be passed on to purchasers and redeemers of Creation Units in the form of creation and redemption transaction fees. However, the Fund has capped the total fees that may be charged in connection with the redemption of Creation Units at 2% of the value of the Creation Units redeemed. To the extent transaction and other costs associated with a redemption exceed that cap, those transaction costs will be borne by the Fund's remaining shareholders. These factors may result in wider spreads between the bid and the offered prices of the Fund's Shares than for other ETFs.

## **SECTOR RISK**

Companies with similar characteristics may be grouped together in broad categories called sectors. Sector risk is the possibility that a certain sector may underperform other sectors or the market as a whole. As the Adviser allocates more of the Fund's portfolio holdings to a particular sector, the Fund's performance will be more susceptible to any economic, business or other developments which generally affect that sector.

## **TECHNOLOGY RISK**

The Adviser uses various technologies in managing the Fund, consistent with its investment objective(s) and strategy described in this Prospectus. For example, proprietary and third-party data and systems are utilized to support decision-making for the Fund. Data imprecision, software or other technology malfunctions, programming inaccuracies and similar circumstances may impair the performance of these systems, which may negatively affect Fund performance.

## What Do Shares Cost?

### **CALCULATION OF NET ASSET VALUE**

The Fund's net asset value of a Share (NAV) is determined as of the end of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) (normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) each day the NYSE is open. The Fund calculates the NAV by valuing its assets, subtracting its liabilities and dividing the balance by the number of Shares outstanding. The Fund's current NAV and/or public offering price may be found at [FederatedHermes.com/us](http://FederatedHermes.com/us), via online news sources and in certain newspapers.

When the Fund holds securities that trade principally in foreign markets on days the NYSE is closed, the value of the Fund's assets may change on days you cannot purchase or redeem Shares. This may also occur when the U.S. markets for fixed-income securities are open on a day the NYSE is closed.

In calculating its NAV, the Fund generally values investments as follows:

- Fixed-income securities are fair valued using price evaluations provided by a pricing service approved by the Adviser.
- Derivative contracts listed on exchanges are valued at their reported settlement or closing price, except that options are valued at the mean of closing bid and ask quotations.
- Over-the-counter (OTC) derivative contracts are fair valued using price evaluations provided by a pricing service approved by the Adviser.

If any price, quotation, price evaluation or other pricing source is not readily available when the NAV is calculated, if the Fund cannot obtain price evaluations from a pricing service or from more than one dealer for an investment within a reasonable period of time as set forth in the Adviser's valuation policies and procedures, or if information furnished by a pricing service, in the opinion of the Valuation Committee, is deemed not representative of the fair value of such security, the Fund uses the fair value of the investment determined in accordance with the procedures generally described below. There can be no assurance that the Fund could obtain the fair value assigned to an investment if it sold the investment at approximately the time at which the Fund determines its NAV per share.

Shares of other funds are valued based upon their reported NAVs. The prospectuses for these funds explain the circumstances under which they will use fair value pricing and the effects of using fair value pricing.

### **FAIR VALUATION AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS PROCEDURES**

Pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Board of Trustees (Board) has designated the Adviser as the Fund's valuation designee to perform the fair valuation determination for securities and other assets held by the Fund. The Adviser, acting through its "Valuation Committee," is responsible for determining the fair value of investments for which market quotations are not readily available. The Valuation Committee is comprised of officers of the Adviser and certain of the Adviser's affiliated companies and determines fair value and oversees the calculation of the NAV. The Valuation Committee is subject to Board oversight and certain reporting and other requirements intended to provide the Board the information it needs to oversee the Adviser's fair value determinations.

The Valuation Committee is also authorized to use pricing services to provide fair price evaluations of the current fair value of certain investments for purposes of calculating the NAV. In the event that market quotations and price evaluations are not available for an investment, the Valuation Committee determines the fair value of the investment in accordance with procedures adopted by the Adviser as the valuation designee. The Board periodically reviews the fair valuations made by the Valuation Committee. The Board has also approved the Adviser's fair valuation and significant events procedures as part of the Fund's compliance program and will review any changes made to the procedures. The Fund's SAI discusses the methods used by pricing services and the Valuation Committee in valuing investments.

Using fair value to price investments may result in a value that is different from an investment's most recent closing price and from the prices used by other registered funds to calculate their NAVs. The application of the fair value procedures to an investment represents a good faith determination of such investment's fair value. There can be no assurance that the Fund could obtain the fair value assigned to an investment if it sold the investment at approximately the time at which the Fund determines its NAV per share, and the actual value could be materially different.

The Adviser also has adopted procedures requiring an investment to be priced at its fair value whenever the Valuation Committee determines that a significant event affecting the value of the investment has occurred between the time as of which the price of the investment would otherwise be determined and the time as of which the NAV is computed. An event is considered significant if there is both an affirmative expectation that the investment's value will change in response to the event and a reasonable basis for quantifying the resulting change in value.

Examples of significant events that may occur after the close of the principal market on which a security is traded, or after the time of a price evaluation provided by a pricing service or a dealer, include:

- Political or other developments affecting the economy or markets in which an issuer conducts its operations or its securities are traded; and
- Announcements concerning matters such as acquisitions, recapitalizations or litigation developments or a natural disaster affecting the issuer's operations or regulatory changes or market developments affecting the issuer's industry.

For other significant events, the Fund may seek to obtain more current quotations or price evaluations from alternative pricing sources. If a reliable alternative pricing source is not available, the Valuation Committee will determine the fair value of the investment. The Board periodically reviews fair valuations made in response to significant events.

The fair valuation of securities following a significant event can serve to reduce arbitrage opportunities for short-term traders to profit at the expense of long-term investors in the Fund. For example, such arbitrage opportunities may exist when the market on which portfolio securities are traded closes before the Fund calculates its NAV, which is typically the case with Asian and European markets. However, there is no assurance that these significant event procedures will prevent dilution of the NAV by short-term traders.

## How Do You Buy and Sell Shares?

### INDIVIDUAL SHARES

Shares of the Fund are listed for trading on a national securities exchange during the trading day. The Fund's primary listing exchange is NYSE Arca. Shares can be bought and sold throughout the trading day like Shares of other publicly traded companies, and when you buy or sell the Fund's Shares in the secondary market, you will pay or receive the market price. However, there can be no guarantee that an active trading market will develop or be maintained, or that the Fund Shares listing will continue or remain unchanged. Buying or selling the Fund's Shares involves certain costs that apply to all securities transactions. For example, when buying or selling Shares of the Fund through a financial intermediary, you may incur a brokerage commission or other charges determined by your financial intermediary. The commission is frequently a fixed amount and may be a significant cost for investors seeking to buy or sell small amounts of Shares. In addition, you may also incur the cost of the spread (the difference between the bid price (the price secondary market investors are willing to pay for Shares) and the ask price (the price at which secondary market investors are willing to sell Shares)). The spread varies over time for Shares of the Fund based on its trading volume and market liquidity, and is generally less if the Fund has more trading volume and market liquidity and more if the Fund has less trading volume and market liquidity.

### CREATIONS AND REDEMPTIONS

Shares of the Fund may only be acquired through the Distributor and redeemed directly with the Fund by or through an Authorized Participant in Creation Units or multiples thereof. A Creation Unit is comprised of 20,000 Shares, as discussed in the "Creation and Redemption of Creation Units" section of the SAI. "Authorized Participants" are registered clearing agents that enter into an agreement with the Distributor to transact in Creation Units. For a list of the Fund's Authorized Participants, contact the Distributor at 888-400-7838. Once created, Shares of the Fund normally trade in the secondary market in amounts less than a Creation Unit.

The Fund is open on every "Business Day," which is any day the NYSE is open. The New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) is open for trading Monday through Friday and is closed on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth National Independence Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. On days when the NYSE closes earlier than normal, the Fund may require orders to create or redeem Creation Units to be placed earlier in the day. See the "Creation and Redemption of Creation Units" section of the SAI.

Purchases and redemptions of Creation Units will take place in-kind and/or for cash at the discretion of the Fund. The determination of whether purchases and redemptions of Creation Units will be for cash or in-kind depends primarily on the regulatory requirements and settlement mechanisms relevant to the Fund's portfolio holdings and the Fund is not limited to engaging in in-kind transactions to any particular market circumstances. As further described in the SAI, Creation Units typically are issued on a one Business Day ("T+1") basis after a purchase order has been received in good order and the transfer of good title to the Fund of any in-kind securities and/or cash required to purchase a Creation Unit have been completed (subject to certain exceptions). Similarly, and also as further described in the SAI, deliveries of redemption proceeds by the Fund generally will be made on a T+1 basis after a redemption order has been received in good order and the requisite number of Fund Shares have been delivered (subject to certain exceptions). The Fund reserves the right to settle Creation Unit transactions on a basis other than T+1 including a shorter settlement period, if necessary or appropriate under the circumstances and compliant with applicable law. For example, the Fund reserves the right to settle Creation Unit transactions on a basis other than T+1 in order to, among other matters, accommodate non-U.S. market holiday schedules, closures and settlement cycles, to account for different treatment among non-U.S. and U.S. markets of dividend record dates and ex-dividend dates (i.e., the last day the holder of a security can sell the security and still receive dividends payable on the security) and in certain other circumstances. The Fund may delay settlement for up to 15 days from the date an order has been submitted in good order and the requisite cash and/or assets delivered to the relevant Fund to accommodate foreign holidays, as further described in the SAI, and otherwise may delay redemptions up to seven days or longer as permitted by applicable law, regulations and interpretations, such as where unusual market conditions affect the NYSE or an emergency exists which makes it impracticable for the Fund to dispose of or value securities it owns or the Fund has received an SEC exemptive order.

The Fund intends to comply with the U.S. federal securities laws in accepting securities for deposit and satisfying redemptions with redemption securities by, among other means, assuring that any securities accepted for deposit and any securities used to satisfy redemption requests will be sold in transactions that would be exempt from registration under the Securities Act. Further, an Authorized Participant that is not a “qualified institutional buyer,” as such term is defined under Rule 144A of the Securities Act, will not be able to receive restricted securities eligible for resale under Rule 144A.

For more information on how to buy and sell Shares of the Fund, call 1-800-341-7400 or visit [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://FederatedHermes.com/us).

#### **SHARE TRADING PRICES**

The trading prices of the Fund’s Shares listed on its Exchange may differ from the Fund’s daily NAV and will normally be affected by market forces, such as supply and demand, economic conditions, the market value of the Fund’s disclosed portfolio holdings and other factors. As a result, trading prices may be lower, higher or the same as the Fund’s NAV; and investors may pay more than NAV when buying Shares and receive less than NAV when selling Shares through the Exchange.

#### **BOOK ENTRY**

Shares of the Fund are held in book-entry form, which means that no stock certificates are issued. The Depository Trust Company (DTC) or its nominee is the record owner of all outstanding Shares of the Fund and is recognized as the owner of all Shares for all purposes.

Investors owning Shares of the Fund are beneficial owners as shown on the records of DTC or its participants. DTC serves as the securities depository for Shares of the Fund. DTC participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other institutions that directly or indirectly maintain a custodial relationship with DTC. As a beneficial owner of Shares, you are not entitled to receive physical delivery of stock certificates or to have Shares registered in your name, and you are not considered a registered owner of Shares. Therefore, to exercise any right as an owner of Shares, you must rely upon the procedures of DTC and its participants. These procedures are the same as those that apply to any other exchange-traded securities that you hold in book-entry or “street name” form.

#### **PREMIUM/DISCOUNT INFORMATION**

The NAV of the Fund will fluctuate with changes in the market value of its portfolio holdings. The market price of the Fund will fluctuate in accordance with changes in its NAV, as well as market supply and demand.

There may be differences – premiums or discounts – between the daily market prices on secondary markets for Shares of the Fund and the Fund’s NAV. NAV is the price per share at which the Fund issues and redeems Shares. The Fund’s market price may be at, above or below its NAV. A premium is the amount that the Fund is trading above the reported NAV, expressed as a percentage of the NAV. A discount is the amount that the Fund is trading below the reported NAV, expressed as a percentage of the NAV. A discount or premium could be significant. Information regarding the Fund’s NAV, market price and daily premiums or discounts can be found at <https://www.federatedhermes.com/us/product/exchange-traded-funds/total-return-bond-etf.do>

#### **INVESTMENTS BY REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANIES**

Section 12(d)(1) of the 1940 Act restricts investments by investment companies in the securities of other investment companies, including Shares of the Fund. Registered investment companies are permitted to invest in the Fund beyond the limits set forth in Section 12(d)(1) subject to certain terms and conditions, including that such investment companies enter into an agreement with the Fund.

#### **CONTINUOUS OFFERING**

The method by which Creation Units of Fund Shares are created and traded may raise certain issues under applicable securities laws. Because new Creation Units of Shares are issued and sold by the Fund on an ongoing basis, a “distribution,” as such term is used in the Securities Act, may occur at any point. Broker-dealers and other persons are cautioned that some activities on their part may, depending on the circumstances, result in their being deemed participants in a distribution in a manner which could render them statutory underwriters and subject them to the prospectus delivery requirement and liability provisions of the Securities Act.

For example, a broker-dealer firm or its client may be deemed a statutory underwriter if it takes Creation Units after placing an order with the Distributor, breaks them down into constituent Shares and sells the Shares directly to customers or if it chooses to couple the creation of a supply of new Shares with an active selling effort involving solicitation of secondary market demand for Shares. A determination of whether one is an underwriter for purposes of the Securities Act must take into account all the facts and circumstances pertaining to the activities of the broker-dealer or its client in the particular case, and the examples mentioned above should not be considered a complete description of all the activities that could lead to a characterization as an underwriter.

Broker-dealer firms should also note that dealers who are not “underwriters” but are effecting transactions in Shares, whether or not participating in the distribution of Shares, are generally required to deliver a prospectus. This is because the prospectus delivery exemption in Section 4(3) of the Securities Act is not available in respect of such transactions as a result of Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act. As a result, broker-dealer firms should note that dealers who are not “underwriters” but are participating in a distribution (as contrasted with engaging in ordinary secondary market transactions) and thus dealing with the Shares that are part of an over-allotment within the meaning of Section 4(3)(C) of the Securities Act, will be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(3) of the Securities Act. For delivery of prospectuses to exchange members, the prospectus delivery mechanism of Rule 153 under the Securities Act is only available with respect to transactions on a national exchange.

Dealers effecting transactions in the Fund’s Shares, whether or not participating in this distribution, are generally required to deliver a Prospectus. This is in addition to any obligation of dealers to deliver a Prospectus when acting as underwriters.

## Payments to Financial Intermediaries

The Fund and its affiliated service providers may pay fees as described below to financial intermediaries (such as broker-dealers, banks, investment advisers or third-party administrators) whose customers are shareholders of the Fund.

### **RULE 12b-1 FEES**

The Board has adopted a Rule 12b-1 Plan, which allows payment of marketing fees of up to 0.25% of the Fund’s average net assets. Because these fees would be paid out of the Fund’s assets on an on-going basis, over time these fees would increase the cost of your investment. The Fund’s Shares have no present intention of paying, accruing or incurring any Rule 12b-1 Fees until such time as approved by the Fund’s Board of Trustees.

### **ADDITIONAL PAYMENTS TO FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES**

The Distributor may pay out of its own resources amounts to certain financial intermediaries, including broker-dealers, banks, registered investment advisers, independent financial planners and retirement plan administrators, that support the sale of Shares or provide services to Fund shareholders. The amounts of these payments could be significant, and may create an incentive for the financial intermediary or its employees or associated persons to recommend or sell Shares of the Fund to you. Not all financial intermediaries receive such payments, and the amount of compensation may vary by intermediary. In some cases, such payments may be made by or funded from the resources of companies affiliated with the Distributor (including the Adviser). These payments are not reflected in the fees and expenses listed in the fee table section of the Fund’s Prospectus and described above because they are not paid by the Fund.

These payments are negotiated and may be based on such factors as: the number or value of Shares that the financial intermediary sells or may sell; the value of client assets invested; the level and types of services or support furnished by the financial intermediary; or the Fund’s and/or other Federated Hermes funds’ relationship with the financial intermediary. These payments may be in addition to payments, as described above, made by the Fund to the financial intermediary. In connection with these payments, the financial intermediary may elevate the prominence or profile of the Fund and/or other Federated Hermes funds, within the financial intermediary’s organization by, for example, placement on a list of preferred or recommended funds and/or granting the Distributor preferential or enhanced opportunities to promote the funds in various ways within the financial intermediary’s organization. You can ask your financial intermediary for information about any payments it receives from the Distributor or the Fund and any services provided, as well as about fees and/or commissions it charges.

## Account and Share Information

### **FUND DISTRIBUTIONS**

The Fund distributes substantially all of its net investment income to shareholders in the form of dividends. The Fund intends to declare and distribute income dividends monthly to shareholders of record. In addition, the Fund distributes any net capital gains earned from the sale of portfolio securities or as a result of distributions from other investment companies to shareholders no less frequently than annually. Net short-term capital gains may be paid more frequently. Dividend payments are made through DTC participants and indirect participants to beneficial owners then of record with proceeds received from the Fund.

No dividend reinvestment service is provided by the Trust. Financial intermediaries may make available the DTC book-entry Dividend Reinvestment Service for use by beneficial owners of Fund Shares for reinvestment of their dividend distributions. Beneficial owners should contact their financial intermediary to determine the availability and costs of the service and the details of participation therein. Financial intermediaries may require beneficial owners to adhere to specific procedures and timetables. If this service is available and used, dividend distributions of both income and net capital gains will be automatically reinvested in additional whole Shares of the Fund purchased in the secondary market.

## **TAX INFORMATION**

The Fund and/or your financial intermediary provides year-end tax information and an annual statement of your account activity to assist you in completing your federal, state and local tax returns. Fund distributions of dividends and capital gains are taxable to you whether paid in cash or reinvested in the Fund. Dividends are taxable at different rates depending on the source of dividend income. Distributions of net short-term capital gains are taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions of net long-term capital gains are taxable to you as long-term capital gains regardless of how long you have owned your Shares.

Fund distributions are expected to be primarily dividends. Redemptions and exchanges are taxable sales. Please consult your tax adviser regarding your federal, state and local tax liability.

### **Taxes on Creations and Redemptions of Creation Units**

A person who purchases a Creation Unit by exchanging securities in-kind generally will recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between: (i) the sum of the market value of the Creation Units at the time of the exchange and any net amount of cash received by the Authorized Participant in the exchange; and (ii) the sum of the purchaser's aggregate basis in the securities surrendered and any net amount of cash paid for the Creation Units. A person who redeems Creation Units and receives securities in-kind from the Fund will generally recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between the redeemer's basis in the Creation Units, and the aggregate market value of the securities received and any net cash received. The IRS, however, may assert that a loss realized upon an in-kind exchange of securities for Creation Units or an exchange of Creation Units for securities cannot be deducted currently under the rules governing "wash sales," or on the basis that there has been no significant change in economic position. Persons effecting in-kind creations or redemptions should consult their own tax adviser with respect to these matters. The Fund has the right to reject an order for Creation Units if the purchaser (or a group of purchasers) would, upon obtaining the Shares so ordered, own 80% or more of the outstanding Shares of the Fund and if, pursuant to section 351 of the Code, the Fund would have a basis in the deposit securities different from the market value of such securities on the date of deposit. The Fund also has the right to require information necessary to determine beneficial share ownership for purposes of the 80% determinations.

### **FREQUENT TRADING POLICIES**

As described above, when buying or selling shares of the Fund through a financial intermediary, you may incur a brokerage commission or other charges determined by your financial intermediary. Due to these brokerage costs, if any, frequent buying and selling of Fund Shares on the secondary market may detract significantly from investment returns.

The Trust's Board of Trustees has determined not to adopt policies and procedures designed to prevent or monitor for frequent purchases and redemptions of the Fund's shares because the Fund sells and redeems its shares at NAV only in Creation Units pursuant to the terms of an Authorized Participant Agreement between the Authorized Participant and the Distributor, and such direct trading between the Fund and Authorized Participants is critical to ensuring that the Fund's shares trade at or close to NAV. Further, the vast majority of trading in Fund shares occurs on the secondary market, which does not involve the Fund directly and therefore does not cause the Fund to experience many of the harmful effects of market timing, such as dilution and disruption of portfolio management. In addition, the Fund imposes a transaction fee on Creation Unit transactions, which is designed to offset transfer and other transaction costs incurred by the Fund in connection with the issuance and redemption of Creation Units and may employ fair valuation pricing to minimize potential dilution from market timing. The Fund reserves the right to reject any purchase order at any time and reserves the right to impose restrictions on disruptive, excessive, or short-term trading.

### **PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS INFORMATION**

A description of the Trust's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the Fund's portfolio securities is available in the Fund's Statement of Additional Information. The Fund discloses its portfolio holdings daily at [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://www.federatedhermes.com/us). Fund fact sheets are also available on [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://www.federatedhermes.com/us) and provide information regarding the Fund's top holdings. Other information may be requested by calling 1-800-341-7400.

### **Declaration of Trust Provisions**

The Board has adopted, and from time to time amends, an Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust for the Trust and the Fund, which governs its operations and by which each shareholder shall be held expressly to have agreed to be bound by the provisions thereof.

The Fund's Declaration of Trust also places limitations on the forum in which claims against the Trust may be heard and includes a waiver of a jury trial. Other than federal securities law claims, claims against the Trust are required to be brought in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware to the extent there is subject matter jurisdiction in such court for the claims asserted or, if not, then in the Superior Court of the State of Delaware. Accordingly, shareholders may be required to bring claims in an inconvenient or less favorable forum.

## Who Manages the Fund?

The Board governs the Fund. The Board selects and oversees the Adviser, Federated Investment Management Company. The Adviser manages the Fund's assets, including buying and selling portfolio securities. Federated Advisory Services Company (FASC), an affiliate of the Adviser, provides certain support services to the Adviser. The fee for these services is paid by the Adviser and not by the Fund. The address of the Adviser and FASC is 1001 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-3779.

The address of the Adviser and FASC is 1001 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-3779.

The Fund has received and can rely upon an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) that permits the Adviser, subject to approval by the Board of Trustees, to appoint a sub-adviser or change the terms of a sub-advisory agreement without obtaining shareholder approval. The Fund is permitted to rely upon the SEC order to change sub-advisers, or the fees paid to a sub-adviser, without the expense and delays associated with obtaining shareholder approval of the change. This order does not, however, permit the Adviser to increase the aggregate advisory fee rate of the Fund without the approval of the shareholders.

The Adviser and other advisory subsidiaries of Federated Hermes combined, advise approximately 101 registered investment companies spanning equity, fixed-income and money market mutual funds and also manage a variety of other pooled investment vehicles, private investment companies and customized separately managed accounts (including non-U.S./offshore funds). Federated Hermes' assets under management totaled approximately \$757.6 billion as of December 31, 2023. Federated Hermes was established in 1955 as Federated Investors, Inc. and is one of the largest investment managers in the United States with more than 2,000 employees. Federated Hermes provides investment products to more than 10,000 investment professionals and institutions.

The Adviser advises approximately 73 registered investment companies and also manages sub-advised funds. The Adviser's assets under management totaled approximately \$468.4 billion as of December 31, 2023.

### PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

#### **Donald T. Ellenberger**

Donald Ellenberger, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since its inception in December of 2023.

Mr. Ellenberger is Head of Multi-Sector Strategies Group and Head of the Yield Curve Committee. He is responsible for day to day management of the Fund focusing on asset allocation, interest rate strategy and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 1996; has worked in investment management since 1987; has managed investment portfolios since 1987. Education: B.A., The Pennsylvania State University; M.B.A., Stanford University.

#### **Nathan H. Kehm**

Nathan H. Kehm, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since its inception in December of 2023.

Mr. Kehm is responsible for day to day management of the Fund focusing on asset allocation, interest rate strategy and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 1997; has worked in investment management since 1989; has managed investment portfolios since 2001. Education; B.S., John Carroll University; M.B.A., University of Pittsburgh.

#### **Jerome D. Conner**

Jerome D. Conner, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since its inception in December of 2023.

Mr. Conner is responsible for day to day management of the Fund focusing on asset allocation, interest rate strategy and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 2002; has worked in investment management since 1995; has managed investment portfolios since 2010. Education: B.S., U.S. Naval Academy; M.S., Boston University.

As noted in the section defining Principal Securities, the Fund has the ability to invest in affiliated investment companies, which are not available for general public investment, to gain additional exposure to mortgage-backed, high-yield and certain international fixed-income securities. The following individuals are portfolio managers of the affiliated investment companies:

### MORTGAGE-BACKED AFFILIATED FUND

#### **Todd A. Abraham**

Todd A. Abraham, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Mortgage-Backed Affiliated Fund's portfolio manager since its inception in February of 1999.

Mr. Abraham is Head of the Government/Mortgage-Backed Fixed Income Group. He is responsible for day to day management of the Mortgage-Backed Affiliated Fund focusing on asset allocation, interest rate strategy and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 1993; has worked in investment management since 1993; has managed investment portfolios since 1995. Education: B.S., Indiana University of Pennsylvania; M.B.A., Loyola College.

#### **HIGH-YIELD AFFILIATED FUND**

##### **Mark E. Durbiano**

Mark E. Durbiano, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the High-Yield Affiliated Fund's portfolio manager since its inception in December of 1997.

Mr. Durbiano is Head of the Domestic High Yield Group and Head of the Bond Sector Pod/Committee. He is responsible for day to day management of the High-Yield Affiliated Fund focusing on asset allocation and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 1982; has worked in investment management since 1982; has managed investment portfolios since 1986. Education: B.A., Dickinson College; M.B.A., University of Pittsburgh.

#### **EMERGING MARKETS AFFILIATED FUND**

##### **Ihab L. Salib**

Ihab L. Salib, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Emerging Markets Affiliated Fund's portfolio manager since May of 2013.

Mr. Salib is Head of the International Fixed Income Group and Head of the Currency Management Committee. He is responsible for day to day management of the Emerging Markets Affiliated Fund focusing on asset allocation, interest rate strategy and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 1999; has worked in investment management since 1992; has managed investment portfolios since 2002. Education: B.A., State University of New York at Stony Brook.

#### **BANK LOAN AFFILIATED FUND**

##### **Anthony Venturino**

Anthony Venturino, CFA, Portfolio Manager, has been the Bank Loan Affiliated Fund's portfolio manager since March of 2019.

Mr. Venturino is responsible for day-to-day management of the Bank Loan Affiliated Fund focusing on asset allocation and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 2005; has worked in investment management since 1998; and has managed investment portfolios since 2019. Education: B.S., University of Dayton; M.B.A., Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University.

#### **PROJECT AND TRADE FINANCE AFFILIATED FUND**

##### **Christopher P. McGinley**

Christopher P. McGinley, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Project and Trade Finance Affiliated Fund's portfolio manager since December of 2009.

Mr. McGinley is Head of the Trade Finance Team and is responsible for day to day management of the Project and Trade Finance Affiliated Fund focusing on asset allocation, interest rate strategy and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 2004; has worked in investment management since 2005; has managed investment portfolios since 2009. Education: B.S., University of Pittsburgh; M.P.I.A., University of Pittsburgh.

The Fund's SAI provides additional information about the Portfolio Managers' compensation, management of other accounts and ownership of securities in the Fund.

#### **ADVISORY FEES**

The Fund's investment advisory contract provides for payment to the Adviser of an annual investment advisory fee of 0.47% of the Fund's average daily net assets. The Adviser may contractually or voluntarily waive a portion of its fee or reimburse the Fund for certain operating expenses. The Adviser and its affiliates have also agreed to certain "Fee Limits" as described in the footnote to the "Risk/Return Summary: Fees and Expenses" table found in the "Fund Summary" section of the Prospectus.

Under the Investment Advisory Agreement between the Trust and the Adviser, the Adviser is responsible for reviewing, supervising and administering the Fund's investment program and the general management and administration of the Trust. In this regard, among other things, the Adviser arranges for transfer agency, custody, fund administration and accounting, and other non-distribution related services necessary for the Fund to operate. The Adviser may engage a sub-adviser to assist it in managing the Fund's investments, but will be responsible for overseeing any sub-advisers. The Adviser manages the Fund's business affairs, provides office facilities and equipment and certain clerical, bookkeeping and administrative services, and permits its officers and employees to serve as officers or Trustees of the Trust. Under the



Investment Advisory Agreement, the Adviser bears all of its own costs associated with providing advisory services to the Fund. In addition, the Adviser has contractually agreed to pay all operating expenses of the Fund, except: (i) interest and taxes (including, but not limited to, income, excise, transaction, transfer and withholding taxes) and registration fees and expenses; (ii) expenses of the Fund incurred with respect to the acquisition and disposition of portfolio securities and the execution of portfolio transactions, including brokerage commissions and short sale dividend or interest expense; (iii) expenses incurred in connection with any distribution plan adopted by the Trust in compliance with Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, including distribution fees; (iv) Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses; (v) litigation expenses; (vi) proxy-related expenses; (vii) tax reclaim recovery expenses; and (viii) any expenses determined to be extraordinary expenses. Nevertheless, there exists a risk that a Trust service provider will seek recourse against the Trust if it is not timely paid by the Adviser for the fees and expenses for which it is responsible, which could materially adversely affect the Fund.

A discussion of the Board's review of the Fund's investment advisory contract will be available in the Fund's annual and semi-annual shareholder reports for the periods ended June 30 and December 31, respectively.

## Financial Information

### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

The Financial Highlights will help you understand the Fund's financial performance for its past five fiscal years or since inception, if the life of the Fund is shorter. Some of the information is presented on a per Share basis. Total returns represent the rate an investor would have earned (or lost) on an investment in the Fund, assuming reinvestment of any dividends and capital gains.

This information has been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with the Fund's audited financial statements, is included in the Fund's filing on Form N-CSR.

## Financial Highlights

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout the Period)

	Period Ended 6/30/2024 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>Income From Investment Operations:</b>	
Net investment income (loss) <sup>2</sup>	0.55
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(0.38)
TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	0.17
<b>Less Distributions:</b>	
Distributions from net investment income	(0.53)
<b>Net Asset Value, End of Period</b>	<b>\$24.64</b>
<b>Total Return<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>0.71%</b>
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets:</b>	
Net expenses <sup>4</sup>	0.37% <sup>5</sup>
Net investment income	4.56% <sup>5</sup>
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>6</sup>	0.14% <sup>5</sup>
<b>Supplemental Data:</b>	
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$95,118
Portfolio turnover <sup>7</sup>	63%

1 Reflects operations for the period from January 3, 2024 (commencement of operations) to June 30, 2024.

2 Per share number has been calculated using the average shares method.

3 Based on net asset value. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

4 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

5 Computed on an annualized basis.

6 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and the net investment income ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

7 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.

Further information about the Fund's performance is contained in the Fund's Annual Report, dated June 30, 2024, which can be obtained free of charge.

## Appendix A: Hypothetical Investment and Expense Information

The following chart provides additional hypothetical information about the effect of the Fund's expenses, including investment advisory fees and other Fund costs, on the Fund's assumed returns over a 10-year period. The chart shows the estimated expenses that would be incurred in respect of a hypothetical investment of \$10,000, assuming a 5% return each year, and an investor's continued holding of Shares. The chart assumes that Shares are purchased at the Fund's net asset value. However, individual Shares cannot be purchased or redeemed at net asset value, and rather are typically bought and sold on an exchange at a market price, which may be higher or lower than net asset value. The chart also assumes that the Fund's annual expense ratio stays the same throughout the 10-year period and that all dividends and distributions are reinvested. The annual expense ratio used in the chart is the gross expense ratio as stated in the "Fees and Expenses" table of this Prospectus (and thus does not reflect any fee waiver or expense reimbursement currently in effect). The hypothetical investment information does not reflect the effect of charges such as brokerage commissions or other fees to financial intermediaries that you may pay (if any). Fund returns, as well as fees and expenses, may fluctuate over time, and your actual investment returns and total expenses may be higher or lower than those shown below.

### FEDERATED HERMES TOTAL RETURN BOND ETF

**ANNUAL EXPENSE RATIO: 0.54%**

**MAXIMUM FRONT-END SALES CHARGE: NONE**

Year	Hypothetical Beginning Investment	Hypothetical Performance Earnings	Investment After Returns	Hypothetical Expenses	Hypothetical Ending Investment
1	\$10,000.00	\$500.00	\$10,500.00	\$55.20	\$10,446.00
2	\$10,446.00	\$522.30	\$10,968.30	\$57.67	\$10,911.89
3	\$10,911.89	\$545.59	\$11,457.48	\$60.24	\$11,398.56
4	\$11,398.56	\$569.93	\$11,968.49	\$62.92	\$11,906.94
5	\$11,906.94	\$595.35	\$12,502.29	\$65.73	\$12,437.99
6	\$12,437.99	\$621.90	\$13,059.89	\$68.66	\$12,992.72
7	\$12,992.72	\$649.64	\$13,642.36	\$71.73	\$13,572.20
8	\$13,572.20	\$678.61	\$14,250.81	\$74.92	\$14,177.52
9	\$14,177.52	\$708.88	\$14,886.40	\$78.27	\$14,809.84
10	\$14,809.84	\$740.49	\$15,550.33	\$81.76	\$15,470.36
Cumulative		\$6,132.69		\$677.10	

An SAI dated August 31, 2024, is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus. Additional information about the Fund and its investments is contained in the Fund's SAI, Annual and Semi-Annual Reports to shareholders and in Form N-CSR as they become available. In Form N-CSR, you will find, among other information, the Fund's annual and semi-annual financial statements. The Annual Report's Management's Discussion of Fund Performance discusses market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year. The SAI contains a description of the Fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of its portfolio securities. To obtain the SAI, Annual Report, Semi-Annual Report and other information, such as financial statements, without charge, to make inquiries or request e-delivery, call your financial intermediary or the Fund at 1-800-341-7400. You may also access the Fund's Prospectus, SAI, Annual Report, Semi-Annual Report, financial statements and other information on the Fund's website at [FederatedHermes.com/us/Fund Information](https://www.FederatedHermes.com/us/Fund%20Information).

These documents, as well as additional information about the Fund (including portfolio holdings, performance and distributions), are also available on [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://www.FederatedHermes.com/us).

You can obtain information about the Fund (including the SAI) by accessing Fund information from the EDGAR Database on the SEC's website at [sec.gov](https://www.sec.gov). You can purchase copies of this information by contacting the SEC by email at [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov).



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Federated Securities Corp., Distributor

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