# **Prospectus**

February 29, 2024



**Ticker** FCSPX

# Federated Hermes Corporate Bond Strategy Portfolio

A Portfolio of Federated Hermes Managed Pool Series

A mutual fund seeking to provide total return, by investing primarily in a diversified portfolio of investment-grade, corporate fixed-income securities. The Fund is used to implement certain fixed-income investment strategies for eligible investors in wrap fee, separately managed and other discretionary investment accounts that are advised or sub-advised by Federated Investment Counseling (FIC), a subsidiary of Federated Hermes, Inc. ("Federated Hermes," formerly Federated Investors, Inc.) or its affiliates, or certain other discretionary managers, as well as affiliated investment companies. Shares of the Fund held for an eligible investor may be purchased only at the direction of FIC or other discretionary managers to such wrap fee, separately managed or other discretionary investment accounts.

As with all mutual 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.

#### CONTENTS

Fund Summary Information	
What are the Fund's Investment Strategies?	5
What are the Fund's Principal Investments?	<i>6</i>
What are the Specific Risks of Investing in the Fund?	
How to Invest in the Fund	
What Do Shares Cost?	
How Does the Fund Price Securities?	17
How to Purchase Shares.	
How to Redeem Shares	
Account and Share Information	
Who Manages the Fund?	
Financial Information	22
Appendix A: Hypothetical Investment and Expense Information	24

# **Fund Summary Information**

#### Federated Hermes Corporate Bond Strategy Portfolio (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 Shares of the Fund. 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.

#### Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Purchases (as a percentage of offering price)	None
Maximum Deferred Sales Charge (Load) (as a percentage of original purchase price or redemption proceeds, as applicable)	None
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Reinvested Dividends (and other Distributions) (as a percentage of offering price)	None
Redemption Fee (as a percentage of amount redeemed, if applicable)	None
Exchange Fee	None

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

Management Fee	0.00%
Distribution (12b-1) Fee	None
Other Expenses	0.26%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses.	0.26%
Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements <sup>1</sup>	(0.26)%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements	0.00%

<sup>1</sup> The Adviser will not charge a fee for its advisory services to the Fund. The Adviser contractually agreed to reimburse all expenses of the Fund, excluding extraordinary expenses. Acquired fund fees and expenses are not direct obligations of the Fund and are not contractual reimbursements under the investment advisory contract. Shareholders must approve any change to the contractual reimbursements. The Fund is used to implement certain fixed-income strategies that are offered to Eligible Investors, Eligible Accounts and Affiliated Funds (as such are defined in this Prospectus). Investors should carefully consider the separate fees charged in connection with investment in the Fund.

#### Example

This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual 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 are based on the contractual limitation and 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 cost would be:

1 Year	\$0
3 Years	\$0
5 Years	\$0
10 Years	\$0

#### **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 5% of the average value of its portfolio.

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

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

The Fund invests primarily in a diversified portfolio of investment-grade, corporate fixed-income securities. While the Fund may invest in securities of any maturity, the Fund's average duration is expected to vary and may range between one and ten years depending on Federated Investment Management Company's (the "Adviser") view of interest rates. The Fund may also invest in Treasury securities, government securities and derivative instruments (such as futures, options and swaps or hybrid instruments) to implement its investment strategies. There can be no assurance that the Fund's use of derivative contracts or hybrid instruments 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 invest up to 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities. Some of the corporate fixed-income securities in which the Fund invests are considered to be "foreign securities" as that term is defined in this Prospectus.

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, the Fund may invest in certain government securities that have no explicit financial support, but which are regarded as having implied support because the federal government sponsors their activities.

The Adviser actively manages the Fund's portfolio seeking total returns over longer time periods in excess of the Fund's benchmark, the Baa (BBB) component of the Bloomberg US Credit Index (BUSCI). The BUSCI is an unmanaged index comprised of corporate bonds or securities represented by the following sectors: industrial, utility and finance, including both U.S. and non-U.S. corporations and non-corporate bonds or securities represented by the following sectors: sovereign, supranational, foreign agencies and foreign local governments. There can be no assurance that the Adviser will be successful in achieving investment returns in excess of the BUSCI. When buying and selling portfolio securities, the Adviser utilizes a four part decision-making process.

First, the Adviser invests the Fund's portfolio seeking the higher relative returns of corporate fixed-income securities, when available, while attempting to limit the associated credit risks. Second, the Adviser selects individual securities that it believes may outperform the Fund's benchmark index. Third, the Adviser may seek to change the Fund's interest rate volatility by lengthening or shortening the Fund's portfolio duration from time to time based on its interest rate outlook. Fourth, the Adviser strategically positions the portfolio based on its expectations for changes in the yield curve.

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

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

All mutual 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:

- 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.
- 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.
- **Issuer 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 Credit Risk. 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 money or to lose the benefit of the transaction or prevent the Fund from selling or buying other securities to implement its investment strategy.
- Call Risk. Call risk is the possibility that an issuer may redeem a fixed-income security before maturity (a call) at a price below its current market price. An increase in the likelihood of a call may reduce the security's price.

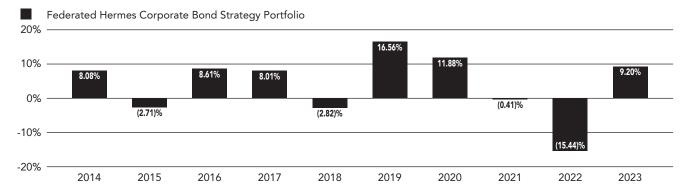
- Sector Risk. A substantial part of the Fund's portfolio may be comprised of securities issued or credit enhanced by companies in similar businesses, or with other similar characteristics. As a result, the Fund will be more susceptible to any economic, business, political or other developments which generally affect these issuers.
- 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. Also, market growth at rates greater than dealers' capacity to make markets, as well as regulatory changes or certain other developments, can reduce dealer inventories of securities (such as corporate bonds), which can further constrain liquidity and increase price volatility. 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. High levels of shareholder redemptions in response to market conditions also may increase liquidity risk and may negatively impact Fund performance.
- **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.
- Risk of Investing in Derivative Contracts and Hybrid Instruments. Derivative contracts and hybrid instruments 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 and instruments 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 and hybrid instruments may also involve other risks described in this Prospectus, such as interest rate, credit, liquidity and leverage risks.
- 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.
- **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

#### Risk/Return Bar Chart

The bar chart and performance table below reflect historical performance data for the Fund and are intended to help you analyze the Fund's investment risks in light of its historical returns. The bar chart shows the variability of the Fund's total returns on a calendar year-by-year basis. The Average Annual Total Return Table shows returns *averaged* over the stated periods, and includes comparative performance information. *The Fund's performance will fluctuate, and past performance* (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of future results. Updated performance information for the Fund is available by calling 1-800-341-7400.



Within the periods shown in the bar chart, the Fund's highest quarterly return was 11.68% (quarter ended June 30, 2020). Its lowest quarterly return was (7.70)% (quarter ended June 30, 2022).

#### Average Annual Total Return Table

In addition to Return Before Taxes, Return After Taxes is shown for the Fund to illustrate the effect of federal taxes on Fund returns. *Actual after-tax returns depend on each investor's personal tax situation, and are likely to differ from those shown*. After-tax returns are calculated using a standard set of assumptions. The stated returns assume the highest historical **federal** income and capital gains tax rates. These after-tax returns do **not** reflect the effect of any applicable **state** and **local** taxes. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors holding Shares through a 401(k) plan, an Individual Retirement Account or other tax-advantaged investment plan.

(For the Period Ended December 31, 2023)

Fund:	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
Return Before Taxes	9.20%	3.70%	3.70%
Return After Taxes on Distributions	7.38%	2.07%	1.91%
Return After Taxes on Distributions and Sale of Fund Shares	5.39%	2.19%	2.07%
Bloomberg US Credit Index <sup>1</sup> (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	8.18%	2.45%	2.83%
Baa component of the Bloomberg US Credit Index <sup>2</sup> (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	9.41%	3.14%	3.31%

- 1 The Bloomberg US Credit Index is composed of all publicly issued, fixed-rate, nonconvertible, investment-grade corporate debt and a non-corporate component that includes foreign agencies, sovereigns, supranationals and local authorities. Issues are rated at least "Baa" by Moody's Investors Service or "BBB" by Standard & Poor's, if unrated by Moody's.
- 2 The Baa component of the Bloomberg US Credit Index is comprised of corporate bonds or securities represented by the following sectors: industrial, utility and finance, including both U.S. and non-U.S. corporations and non-corporate bonds or securities represented by the following sectors: sovereign, supranational, foreign agencies and foreign local governments.

#### **FUND MANAGEMENT**

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

Jerome D. Conner, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since February of 2010. Brian S. Ruffner, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since February of 2018.

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

There is no required minimum initial or subsequent investment amount to invest in Fund Shares.

Shares of the Fund held for an Eligible Investor (as defined below) may be purchased only at the direction of Federated Investment Counseling (FIC), a subsidiary of Federated Hermes, Inc. ("Federated Hermes") or another Discretionary Manager of the Eligible Account (see "How to Invest in the Fund"). To the extent the Fund is permitted as an investment option for an Affiliated Fund (as defined below), Shares also may be purchased and redeemed at the discretion of an Affiliated Fund's adviser. Shares of the Fund may be purchased any day the NYSE is open. An account may be established and Shares purchased by submitting an Account Application and purchase request in good order to the Fund's Transfer Agent, SS&C GIDS, Inc. Shares of the Fund may be redeemed any day the NYSE is open. Redemption requests should be made in accordance with procedures established by the Transfer Agent.

#### 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 DISCRETIONARY MANAGERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Shares of the Fund held for an Eligible Investor may be purchased only at the direction of FIC or another Discretionary Manager of the Eligible Account. Discretionary Managers receive no fee from the Fund for their services. If you purchase the Fund through a Discretionary Manager, the Fund and/or its related companies do not pay the Discretionary Manager for the sale of Fund Shares and related services. Ask your salesperson or visit your Discretionary Manager's website for more information.

# What are the Fund's Investment Strategies?

The Fund's investment objective is to provide total return. 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 a diversified portfolio of investment-grade, corporate fixed-income securities. Investment-grade securities are rated at the time of purchase in one of the four highest categories (BBB or higher) by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO), or if unrated, are of comparable quality as determined by the Adviser. The Fund may also invest in Treasury securities, government securities, and derivative instruments (such as futures, options and swaps or hybrid instruments) to implement its investment strategies. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities. A description of the various types of securities in which the Fund 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 Fund's benchmark, the Baa component of the Bloomberg US Credit Index (BUSCI). The BUSCI is an unmanaged index comprised of corporate bonds or securities represented by the following sectors: industrial, utility and finance, including both U.S. and non-U.S. corporations and non-corporate bonds or securities represented by the following sectors: sovereign, supranational, foreign agencies and foreign local governments. There can be no assurance that the Adviser will be successful in achieving investment returns in excess of the BUSCI.

When buying and selling portfolio securities, the Adviser utilizes a four part decision-making process:

First, the Adviser invests the Fund's portfolio seeking the higher relative returns of corporate fixed-income securities when available, while attempting to limit the associated credit risks. Corporate debt securities generally offer higher yields than U.S. government securities to compensate for credit risk. The Adviser attempts to manage the Fund's credit risk by selecting corporate fixed-income securities that make default in the payment of principal and interest less likely. The Adviser uses corporate earnings analysis to determine which business sectors and credit ratings are most advantageous for investment by the Fund.

Second, the Adviser selects individual securities that it believes may outperform the Fund's benchmark index. For example, the Adviser employs a fundamental analysis to determine the best corporate debt securities within specific credit quality constraints. In selecting securities, the Adviser assesses whether the Fund will be adequately compensated for assuming the risks (such as credit risk) of a particular security by comparing the security to other securities. The Adviser continually analyzes a variety of economic and market indicators in order to arrive at the projected yield "spread" of each security type. (The spread is the difference between the yield of a security versus the yield of a U.S. Treasury security with a comparable average life.) The security's projected spread is weighed against the security's credit risk in order to complete the analysis.

In selecting individual corporate fixed-income securities, the Adviser analyzes a company's business, competitive position and financial condition to assess whether the security's credit risk is commensurate with its potential return. Some of the corporate fixed-income securities in which the Fund invests are considered to be "foreign securities," as that term is defined in this Prospectus. For example, a corporate debt security will be treated as a "foreign security" if the issuer 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. The foreign securities in which the Fund invests will be predominately denominated in the U.S. dollar. To the extent non-U.S., corporate fixed-income securities are purchased in their local currency, hedging strategies will be used to seek to mitigate currency risk.

Third, the Adviser may seek to change the Fund's interest rate volatility by lengthening or shortening the Fund's portfolio duration from time to time based on its interest rate outlook. "Duration" measures the sensitivity of a security's price to changes in interest rates. The greater the portfolio's average duration, the greater the change in the portfolio's value in response to a change in market interest rates. While the Fund may invest in securities of any maturity, the Fund's average duration is expected to vary and may range between one and ten years depending on the Adviser's view of interest rates. For example, if interest rates rise by one percentage point (in a parallel shift) the net asset value (NAV) of a fund with an average duration of ten years theoretically would decline about 10.0%. The above example assumes that all relevant factors that could affect the value of a fund other than interest rates, remain unchanged.

If the Adviser expects interest rates to decline, it will generally lengthen the Fund's duration. If the Adviser expects interest rates to increase, it will generally shorten the Fund's duration. The Adviser formulates its interest rate outlook and otherwise attempts to anticipate changes in economic and market conditions by analyzing a variety of factors, such as:

- current and expected U.S. growth;
- current and expected interest rates and inflation;
- the Federal Reserve Board's monetary policy; and
- changes in the supply of or demand for U.S. government securities.

Fourth, the Adviser strategically positions the portfolio based on its expectations for changes in the 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.

The Fund may use derivative contracts and/or hybrid instruments to implement elements of its investment strategy. For example, the Fund may use derivative contracts or hybrid instruments to increase or decrease the portfolio's exposure to the investment(s) underlying the derivative or hybrid instrument 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;
- 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 or hybrid instruments 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 will invest its assets so that at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) are invested in corporate fixed-income investments. The Fund will notify shareholders at least 60 days in advance of any change in its investment policies that would enable the fund to normally invest less than 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in corporate fixed-income investments.

#### **TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS**

The Fund may temporarily depart from its principal investment strategies by investing its assets in cash and shorter-term debt securities and similar obligations. It may do this to minimize potential losses and maintain liquidity to meet shareholder redemptions during adverse market conditions. This may cause the Fund to give up greater investment returns to maintain the safety of principal, that is, the original amount invested by shareholders.

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

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### Zero-Coupon Securities (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)

Zero-coupon securities do not pay interest or principal until final maturity unlike debt securities that provide periodic payments of interest (referred to as a coupon payment). Investors buy zero-coupon securities at a price below the amount payable at maturity. The difference between the purchase price and the amount paid at maturity represents interest on the zero-coupon security. Investors must wait until maturity to receive interest and principal, which increases the interest rate and credit risks of a zero-coupon security. A zero-coupon, step-up security converts to a coupon security before final maturity.

There are many forms of zero-coupon securities. Some are issued at a discount and are referred to as zero-coupon or capital appreciation bonds. Others are created from interest-bearing bonds by separating the right to receive the bond's coupon payments from the right to receive the bond's principal due at maturity, a process known as coupon stripping. Treasury STRIPs, IOs and POs are the most common forms of stripped zero-coupon securities. In addition, some securities give the issuer the option to deliver additional securities in place of cash interest payments, thereby increasing the amount payable at maturity. These are referred to as pay-in-kind, PIK securities, or toggle securities.

#### **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. However, the Fund generally invests in foreign securities denominated in U.S. dollars. 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 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.

#### **ILLIQUID INVESTMENTS**

Illiquid investments are investments that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. These may include private placements, repurchase agreements that the Fund cannot dispose of within seven days and securities eligible for resale under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933.

#### **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 and volatility swaps.

#### **Total Return Swaps**

A total return swap is an agreement between two parties whereby one party agrees to make payments of the total return from a Reference Instrument (or a basket of such instruments) during the specified period, in return for payments equal to a fixed or floating rate of interest or the total return from another Reference Instrument. Alternately, a total return swap can be structured so that one party will make payments to the other party if the value of a Reference Instrument increases, but receive payments from the other party if the value of that instrument decreases.

#### **Credit Default Swaps**

A credit default swap (CDS) is an agreement between two parties whereby one party (the "Protection Buyer") agrees to make payments over the term of the CDS to the other party (the "Protection Seller"), provided that no designated event of default, restructuring or other credit related event (each a "Credit Event") occurs with respect to Reference Instrument that is usually a particular bond, loan or the unsecured credit of an issuer, in general (the "Reference Obligation"). Many CDS are physically settled, which means that if a Credit Event occurs, the Protection Seller must pay the Protection Buyer the full notional value, or "par value," of the Reference Obligation in exchange for delivery by the Protection Buyer of the Reference Obligation or another similar obligation issued by the issuer of the Reference Obligation (the "Deliverable Obligation"). The Counterparties agree to the characteristics of the Deliverable Obligation at the time that they enter into the CDS. Alternately, a CDS can be "cash settled," which means that, upon the occurrence of a Credit Event, the Protection Buyer will receive a payment from the Protection Seller equal to the difference between the par amount of the Reference Obligation and its market value at the time of the Credit Event. The Fund may be either the Protection Buyer or the Protection Seller in a CDS. If the Fund is a Protection Buyer and no Credit Event occurs, the Fund will lose its entire investment in the CDS (i.e., an amount equal to the payments made to the Protection Seller over the term of the CDS). However, if a Credit Event occurs, the Fund (as Protection Buyer) will deliver the Deliverable Obligation and receive a payment equal to the full notional value of the Reference Obligation, even though the Reference Obligation may have little or no value. If the Fund is the Protection Seller and no Credit Event occurs, the Fund will receive a fixed rate of income

throughout the term of the CDS. However, if a Credit Event occurs, the Fund (as Protection Seller) will pay the Protection Buyer the full notional value of the Reference Obligation and receive the Deliverable Obligation from the Protection Buyer. A CDS may involve greater risks than if the Fund invested directly in the Reference Obligation. For example, a CDS may increase credit risk since the Fund has exposure to both the issuer of the Reference Obligation and the Counterparty to the CDS.

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

The Fund may invest its assets in securities of other investment companies, including 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. 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. The Fund may invest in money market securities directly.

#### OTHER INVESTMENTS, TRANSACTIONS, TECHNIQUES

#### **Securities Lending**

The Fund may lend portfolio securities to borrowers that the Adviser deems creditworthy. In return, the Fund receives cash or liquid securities from the borrower as collateral. The borrower must furnish additional collateral if the market value of the loaned securities increases. Also, the borrower must pay the Fund the equivalent of any dividends or interest received on the loaned securities.

The Fund will reinvest cash collateral in securities that qualify as an acceptable investment for the Fund. However, the Fund must pay interest to the borrower for the use of cash collateral. An acceptable investment into which the Fund may reinvest cash collateral includes, among other acceptable investments, securities of affiliated money market funds (including affiliated institutional prime money market funds with a "floating" net asset value that can impose redemption fees and liquidity gates, impose certain operational impediments to investing cash collateral, and, if net asset value decreases, result in the Fund having to cover the decrease in the value of the cash collateral).

Loans are subject to termination at the option of the Fund or the borrower. The Fund will not have the right to vote on securities while they are on loan. However, the Fund will attempt to terminate a loan in an effort to reacquire the securities in time to vote on matters that are deemed to be material by the Adviser. There can be no assurance that the Fund will have sufficient notice of such matters to be able to terminate the loan in time to vote thereon. The Fund may pay administrative and custodial fees in connection with a loan and may pay a negotiated portion of the interest earned on the cash collateral to a securities lending agent or broker. Securities lending activities are subject to interest rate risks and counterparty credit risks.

#### **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 sub-custodian will take possession of the securities subject to repurchase agreements. The Adviser or sub-custodian 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.

#### **Reverse Repurchase Agreements**

Reverse repurchase agreements (which are considered a type of special transaction for asset segregation or asset coverage purposes) are repurchase agreements in which the Fund is the seller (rather than the buyer) of the securities, and agrees to repurchase them at an agreed upon time and price. A reverse repurchase agreement may be viewed as a type of borrowing by the Fund. Reverse repurchase agreements are subject to credit risks. In addition, reverse repurchase agreements create leverage risks because the Fund must repurchase the underlying security at a higher price, regardless of the market value of the security at the time of repurchase.

#### **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 a fund either limit derivatives exposure to 10% or less of its net assets, or in the alternative 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.

#### **Delayed Delivery Transactions**

Delayed delivery transactions, including when-issued transactions, are arrangements in which the Fund buys securities for a set price, with payment and delivery of the securities scheduled for a future time. During the period between purchase and settlement, no payment is made by the Fund to the issuer and no interest accrues to the Fund. The Fund records the transaction when it agrees to buy the securities and reflects their value in determining the price of its Shares. Settlement dates may be a month or more after entering into these transactions so that the market values of the securities bought may vary from the purchase prices. Therefore, delayed delivery transactions create interest rate risks for the Fund. Delayed delivery transactions also involve credit risks in the event of a counterparty default. These transactions create leverage risks.

#### **Hybrid Instruments**

Hybrid instruments combine elements of two different kinds of securities or financial instruments (such as a derivative contract). Frequently, the value of a hybrid instrument is determined by reference to changes in the value of a Reference Instrument (that is a designated security, commodity, currency, index or other asset or instrument including a derivative contract). The Fund may use hybrid instruments only in connection with permissible investment activities. Hybrid instruments can take on many forms including, but not limited to, the following forms. First, a common form of a hybrid instrument combines elements of a derivative contract with those of another security (typically a fixed-income security). In this case all or a portion of the interest or principal payable on a hybrid security is determined by reference to changes in the price of a Reference Instrument. Second, hybrid instruments may include convertible securities with conversion terms related to a Reference Instrument.

Depending on the type and terms of the hybrid instrument, its risks may reflect a combination of the risks of investing in the Reference Instrument with the risks of investing in other securities, currencies and derivative contracts. Thus, an investment in a hybrid instrument may entail significant risks in addition to those associated with traditional investments or the Reference Instrument. Hybrid instruments are also potentially more volatile than traditional securities or the Reference Instrument. Moreover, depending on the structure of the particular hybrid, it may expose the Fund to leverage risks or carry liquidity risks.

#### Credit Linked Note (A Type of Hybrid Instrument)

A credit linked note (CLN) is a type of hybrid instrument in which a special purpose entity issues a structured note (the "Note Issuer") with respect to which the Reference Instrument is a single bond, a portfolio of bonds or the unsecured credit of an issuer, in general (each a "Reference Credit"). The purchaser of the CLN (the "Note Purchaser") invests a par amount and receives a payment during the term of the CLN that equals a fixed or floating rate of interest equivalent to a high rated funded asset (such as a bank certificate of deposit) plus an additional premium that relates to taking on the credit risk of the Reference Credit. Upon maturity of the CLN, the Note Purchaser will receive a payment equal to: (i) the original par amount paid to the Note Issuer, if there is no occurrence of a designated event of default, restructuring or other credit event (each a "Credit Event") with respect to the issuer of the Reference Credit; or (ii) the market value of the Reference Credit, if a Credit Event has occurred. Depending upon the terms of the CLN, it is also possible that the Note

Purchaser may be required to take physical delivery of the Reference Credit in the event of Credit Event. Most credit linked notes use a corporate bond (or a portfolio of corporate bonds) as the Reference Credit. However, almost any type of fixed-income security (including foreign government securities), index or derivative contract (such as a credit default swap) can be used as the Reference Credit.

#### **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, Standard & Poor's, 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.

#### **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.

#### **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%.

#### **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.

#### **ISSUER 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.

Many fixed-income securities receive credit ratings from nationally recognized statistical rating organizations (NRSROs) such as Fitch Rating Service, Moody's Investor Services, Inc. and Standard & Poor's 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 if interest rates remain unchanged.

#### **COUNTERPARTY CREDIT RISK**

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 money or to lose the benefit of the transaction or prevent the Fund from selling or buying other securities to implement its investment strategy.

#### **CALL RISK**

Call risk is the possibility that an issuer may redeem a fixed-income security before maturity (a "call") at a price below 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.

#### **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.

#### LIQUIDITY RISK

Trading opportunities are more limited for fixed-income securities that have not received any credit ratings, have received ratings below investment grade or are not widely held or are issued by companies located in emerging markets. Also, if dealer capacity has not kept, or does not keep, pace with market growth, or if regulatory changes or other certain developments warrant, dealer inventories of securities (such as corporate bonds) may reach low levels and impact a dealer's ability to "make markets" (or buy or sell a security at a quoted bid and ask price). These factors 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 or not 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. A significant reduction in dealer inventories or "market makers," or other factors resulting in infrequent trading of securities, can lead to decreased liquidity and may also lead to an increase in their price volatility. These affects may be exacerbated during times of economic or political stress.

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.

Increased Fund redemption activity, which may occur in a rising interest rate environment or for other reasons, also may increase liquidity risk due to the need of the Fund to sell portfolio securities and may negatively impact Fund performance.

#### **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 and national governments may not provide information (including financial statements) as frequently or to as great an extent as companies in the United States. Foreign companies and national governments 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 and national governments 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.

Legal remedies available to investors in certain foreign countries may be more limited than those available with respect to investments in the United States or in other foreign countries.

#### RISK OF INVESTING IN DERIVATIVE CONTRACTS AND HYBRID INSTRUMENTS

The Fund's exposure to derivative contracts and hybrid instruments (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 and hybrid instruments 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 and hybrid instruments 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 and hybrid instruments may have tax consequences to the Fund and its shareholders. For example, derivative contracts and hybrid instruments 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 and hybrid instruments may cause the Fund to: (a) incur an excise tax on a portion of the income related to those contracts and instruments; 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 and hybrid instruments may also involve other risks described in this Prospectus, such as interest rate, credit, liquidity and leverage risks.

#### **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.

#### **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.

#### How to Invest in the Fund

The Fund is used to implement fixed-income investment strategies for investors in wrap fee, separately managed and other discretionary investment accounts that are advised or sub-advised by Federated Investment Counseling (FIC), a subsidiary of Federated Hermes, or its affiliates, or certain other third-party discretionary managers that have a business relationship with FIC as described below, as well as affiliated investment companies. The Fund is advised by Federated Investment Management Company (the "Adviser"), another subsidiary of Federated Hermes, and an affiliate of FIC.

For purposes of this Prospectus: (1) the fixed-income investment strategies implemented through investments in the Fund are referred to as the "Fixed-Income Strategies"; (2) the investors in the wrap fee, separately managed and other discretionary investment accounts that may be permitted to invest in the Fund are referred to as "Eligible Investors"; (3) the wrap fee, separately managed and other discretionary investment accounts in which Eligible Investors may invest are referred to as "Eligible Accounts"; and (4) FIC, its affiliates and any other third-party discretionary managers that may invest Eligible Investors' assets in the Fund are referred to as "Discretionary Managers." To the extent permitted under applicable law, the Fund may also be used as an investment option for other investment companies managed by the Adviser or an affiliate. These other investment companies are referred to in this Prospectus as "Affiliated Funds."

At any time, shareholders of the Fund may include Eligible Investors and, to the extent permitted under applicable law, Affiliated Funds. Eligible Investors in the Fund do not include unaffiliated investment companies under the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("1940 Act"), as amended, or private funds exempt from registration under the 1940 Act pursuant to Sections 3(c)(1) or 3(c)(7) of the 1940 Act, unless appropriate exemptive relief is obtained under the 1940 Act and the Fund determines to accept the purchase order for such an investment. In addition, unless the Fund determines to accept a purchase order for an investment, an Eligible Investor in the Fund does not include: (i) a non-resident alien within the meaning of I.R.C. § 7701(b)(1)(B) who is a natural person; (ii) a covered expatriate (i.e., a U.S. citizen temporarily residing abroad) within the meaning of I.R.C. § 877A(g)(1)(A); (iii) a foreign institutional investor; or (iv) a fund or investor in the European Union.

At any time that an investor in the Fund ceases to be an Eligible Investor and FIC (or its affiliate) is acting in a discretionary capacity, the Fund will redeem the Fund's Shares held by such investor. At any time that an investor in the Fund (through a relationship with a third-party discretionary manager that has a business relationship with FIC (or its affiliate)) ceases to be an Eligible Investor, the third-party discretionary manager will redeem the Fund's Shares held by such investor. In all circumstances, Federated Securities Corp. reserves the right to authorize the liquidation of shares for ineligible investors.

The Fixed-Income Strategies may include investments in individual securities, as well as shares of the Fund ("Shares"), depending upon the type of Eligible Account, the applicable investment objectives, restrictions and investment mandate of an Eligible Investor, instructions provided by an Eligible Investor or Discretionary Manager or other relevant factors. The Fund is designed to purchase securities required for the Fixed-Income Strategies that cannot be efficiently held individually in Eligible Accounts, but can be effectively held in a pooled vehicle, such as a mutual fund.

When the Fund is used to implement Fixed-Income Strategies for wrap fee and separately managed accounts, the wrap fee program sponsors or separately managed account managers typically will have contracts with Eligible Investors to provide investment management, custody and/or other services to Eligible Investors in connection with investments in Eligible Accounts. Eligible Investors typically will pay negotiated asset-based fees, which may vary, for the services. In wrap fee programs, the fees generally will be aggregated or "bundled." FIC, or an affiliate, will be engaged as an adviser or sub-adviser to manage, on a discretionary basis, assets of the Eligible Investors invested in the Eligible Accounts in accordance with one or more Fixed-Income Strategies developed by FIC or an affiliate. FIC, or an affiliate, typically will receive negotiated asset-based investment advisory fees for managing the Eligible Investors' assets and performing other administrative services. These fees received by FIC or an affiliate, may vary between wrap fee program sponsors and/or separately managed account managers, and typically will be paid out of the aggregated fees charged to Eligible Investors by the wrap fee program sponsors and/or separately managed account managers. The fees received by FIC, or an affiliate, will be paid for separate account advisory services which are separate from the Adviser's management of the Fund. Where FIC, or an affiliate, will be the Discretionary Manager for Eligible Accounts of Eligible Investors, FIC, or an affiliate, will implement the applicable Fixed-Income Strategies through, among other possible investments, purchasing and redeeming Shares of the Fund on behalf of the Eligible Investors. In such cases, the Fund will be used to implement certain investment strategies offered by FIC, including an investment strategy for Eligible Accounts. The investment adviser to

the Fund does not charge a fee for its advisory services to the Fund and has contractually agreed to reimburse all operating expenses, excluding extraordinary expenses, incurred by the Fund. However, as discussed above in "Investing in Securities of Other Investment Companies," the Fund may invest its assets in securities of other investment companies, including the securities of affiliated money market funds, as an efficient means of implementing its investment strategies and/or managing its uninvested cash. For example, the Fund may decide to have any excess cash swept on a daily basis into an affiliated money market fund. 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.

If the Fund is used to implement Fixed-Income Strategies for other separately managed or discretionary investment accounts, FIC, or an affiliate, will not manage, on a discretionary basis, the accounts of the Eligible Investors invested in these types of Eligible Accounts. The Discretionary Managers of the Eligible Investors' accounts will be third-party discretionary managers. These Discretionary Managers typically will have contracts with Eligible Investors to provide investment management, custody and/or other services to Eligible Investors in connection with investments in these Eligible Accounts. Eligible Investors typically will pay negotiated asset-based fees, which may vary, for the services. These Discretionary Managers will be engaged as advisers or sub-advisers to manage, on a discretionary basis, assets of the Eligible Investors invested in these Eligible Accounts in accordance with one or more Fixed-Income Strategies developed by these Discretionary Managers. These Discretionary Managers will have separate contracts with FIC, or an affiliate, to provide these Discretionary Managers with one or more model portfolios for Fixed-Income Strategies developed by FIC or an affiliate, as well as recommendations for updates to the model portfolios. These Discretionary Managers will use the model portfolios, and recommended updates, at their discretion to develop the Discretionary Managers' Fixed-Income Strategies. FIC, or an affiliate, will not have discretionary authority over Eligible Investors' accounts. As compensation for providing the model portfolios and recommended updates, FIC, or an affiliate, typically will receive negotiated asset-based fees, which will be determined based on the amount of assets under management these Discretionary Managers manage in accordance with their Fixed-Income Strategies that they develop using the model portfolios, and recommended updates, provided by FIC or an affiliate. These fees received by FIC or an affiliate, may vary between Discretionary Managers, and will be paid to FIC, or an affiliate, by these Discretionary Managers. The fees received by FIC, or an affiliate, will be paid for services separate from the Adviser's management of the Fund. These Discretionary Managers will have the option to implement their Fixed-Income Strategies through, among other possible investments, purchasing and redeeming Shares of the Fund on behalf of the Eligible Investors.

Shareholders of the Fund, as Eligible Investors, are strongly encouraged to read carefully the wrap fee brochure or other disclosure documents provided to them in connection with their investments in wrap fee, separately managed or other discretionary investment accounts (i.e., the Eligible Accounts). To the extent that an Eligible Investor has imposed investment restrictions on its Eligible Accounts, the Fund may hold investments that are inconsistent with the Eligible Investor's investment restrictions. These brochures and disclosure documents will contain information about the fees charged to Eligible Investors in connection with their investments in the Eligible Accounts. These brochures and other disclosure documents will contain information about the fees paid or received by the wrap fee program sponsors, or Discretionary Managers or other third-parties, to or from FIC, or its affiliates, in connection with the Eligible Investors' investments in the Eligible Accounts. These brochures and disclosure documents also will contain other important information regarding the Discretionary Managers and Eligible Accounts, such as minimum Eligible Account sizes. Shareholders of the Fund, as Eligible Investors, pay no additional fees or expenses to purchase Shares of the Fund.

Shares of the Fund held by an Eligible Investor may be purchased or redeemed only at the direction of FIC or another Discretionary Manager of the Eligible Account. To the extent the Fund is permitted as an investment option for an Affiliated Fund, Shares also may be purchased and redeemed at the discretion of an Affiliated Fund's adviser. Shares can be purchased or redeemed on any day the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) is open.

# What Do Shares Cost?

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

When the Fund receives a transaction request in proper form (as described in this Prospectus under the sections entitled "How to Purchase Shares" and "How to Redeem Shares"), it is processed at the next calculated net asset value of a Share (NAV). A Share's 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, via online news sources and in certain newspapers.

Eligible Investors can purchase, redeem or exchange Shares any day the NYSE is open.

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.

# How Does the Fund Price Securities?

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.
- 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 mutual funds are valued based upon their reported NAVs. The prospectuses for these mutual 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, as amended, the 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:

- With respect to securities traded principally in foreign markets, significant trends in U.S. equity markets or in the trading of foreign securities index futures contracts;
- 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.

The Adviser has adopted procedures whereby the Valuation Committee uses a pricing service to provide factors to update the fair value of equity securities traded principally in foreign markets from the time of the close of their respective foreign stock exchanges to the pricing time of the Fund. 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. See "Account and Share Information—Frequent Trading Policies" for other procedures the Fund employs to deter such short-term trading.

#### How to Purchase Shares

Shares of the Fund held for an Eligible Investor may be purchased only at the direction of FIC or another Discretionary Manager of the Eligible Account. To the extent the Fund is permitted as an investment option for an Affiliated Fund, Shares also may be purchased at the discretion of the Affiliated Fund's adviser. Shares of the Fund may be purchased any day the NYSE is open. An account may be established and Shares purchased by submitting an Account Application and purchase request in good order to the Fund's Transfer Agent, SS&C GIDS, Inc.

Payment by federal funds must be received by the Fund's custodian by 3:00 p.m. (Eastern time) the next business day following the receipt of the purchase order. The Fund reserves the right to reject any request to purchase Shares.

#### How to Redeem Shares

Shares of the Fund held by an Eligible Investor may be redeemed only at the direction of FIC or another Discretionary Manager of the Eligible Investor's Eligible Account. Shares held by an Affiliated Fund may be redeemed at the discretion of an Affiliated Fund's adviser.

Shares held by or on behalf of a shareholder who ceases to be an Eligible Investor (as defined above) must be redeemed and each shareholder on whose behalf FIC or another Discretionary Manager has purchased Shares agrees to any such redemption. If FIC (or its affiliate) is acting in a discretionary capacity, the Fund will redeem the Fund's Shares held by such investor. If the Fund Shares were purchased through a relationship with a third-party Discretionary Manager that has a business relationship with FIC (or its affiliate), the third-party Discretionary Manager will redeem the Fund's Shares held by such investor. In all circumstances, Federated Securities Corp. reserves the right to authorize the liquidation of shares for ineligible investors. The Fund will attempt to provide the applicable Discretionary Manager and/or wrap program sponsor with advance notice of any such redemption on behalf of the shareholder.

Shares of the Fund may be redeemed any day the NYSE is open by submitting a redemption request in good order to the Fund's Transfer Agent, SS&C GIDS, Inc. Redemption requests received before the end of regular trading on the NYSE (normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) will receive a redemption amount based on that day's NAV.

Redemption proceeds normally are wired or mailed within one business day for each method of payment after receiving a timely request in proper form. Depending upon the method of payment, when shareholders receive redemption proceeds can differ. Payment may be delayed for up to seven days under certain circumstances (see "Limitations on Redemption Proceeds").

#### **PAYMENT METHODS FOR REDEMPTIONS**

Redemption proceeds will be paid by one of the following methods established by the Discretionary Manager or affiliated Adviser:

- an electronic transfer to the shareholder's wrap fee, separately managed or discretionary investment account (i.e., Eligible Account) custodied at a financial institution that is an ACH member;
- wire payment to the shareholder's wrap fee, separately managed or discretionary investment account (i.e., Eligible Account) custodied at a domestic commercial bank that is a Federal Reserve System member; or
- check mailed to the qualified custodian of the shareholder's wrap fee, separately managed or discretionary investment accounts (i.e., Eligible Account).

#### METHODS THE FUND MAY USE TO MEET REDEMPTION REQUESTS

The Fund intends to pay Share redemptions in cash. To ensure that the Fund has cash to meet Share redemptions on any day, the Fund typically expects to hold a cash or cash equivalent reserve or sell portfolio securities.

In unusual or stressed circumstances, the Fund may generate cash in the following ways:

- Inter-fund Borrowing and Lending. The SEC has granted an exemption that permits the Fund and all other funds advised by subsidiaries of Federated Hermes ("Federated Hermes funds") to lend and borrow money for certain temporary purposes directly to and from other Federated Hermes funds. Inter-fund borrowing and lending is permitted only: (a) to meet shareholder redemption requests; (b) to meet commitments arising from "failed" trades; and (c) for other temporary purposes. All inter-fund loans must be repaid in seven days or less.
- Committed Line of Credit. The Fund participates with certain other Federated Hermes funds, on a several basis, in an up to \$500,000,000 unsecured, 364-day, committed, revolving line of credit (LOC) agreement. The LOC was made available to temporarily finance the repurchase or redemption of shares of the funds, failed trades, payment of dividends, settlement of trades and for other short-term, temporary or emergency general business purposes. The Fund cannot borrow under the LOC if an inter-fund loan is outstanding.
- Redemption in Kind. Although the Fund intends to pay Share redemptions in cash, it reserves the right to pay the redemption price in whole or in part by an "in-kind" distribution of the Fund's portfolio securities. Because the Fund has elected to be governed by Rule 18f-1 under the 1940 Act, the Fund is obligated to pay Share redemptions to any one shareholder in cash only up to the lesser of \$250,000 or 1% of the net assets represented by such Share class during any 90-day period. Redemptions in kind are made consistent with the procedures adopted by the Fund's Board, which generally include distributions of a pro rata share of the Fund's portfolio assets. Redemption in kind is not as liquid as a cash redemption. If redemption is made in kind, securities received may be subject to market risk and the shareholder could incur taxable gains and brokerage or other charges in converting the securities to cash.

#### LIMITATIONS ON REDEMPTION PROCEEDS

Redemption proceeds normally are wired or mailed within one business day after receiving a request in proper form. Payment may be delayed up to seven days:

- to allow a purchase to clear;
- during periods of market volatility;
- when a shareholder's trade activity or amount adversely impacts the Fund's ability to manage its assets; or
- during any period when the Federal Reserve wire or applicable Federal Reserve banks are closed, other than customary weekend and holiday closings.

If a redemption of Shares recently purchased by check (including a cashier's check or certified check), money order, bank draft or ACH is requested, redemption proceeds may not be made available up to seven calendar days to allow the Fund to collect payment on the instrument used to purchase such Shares. If the purchase instrument does not clear, any purchase order will be canceled and the party submitting such payment will be responsible for any losses incurred by the Fund as a result of the canceled order.

In addition, redemptions may be suspended, or the payment of proceeds may be delayed, during any period:

- when the NYSE is closed, other than customary weekend and holiday closings;
- when trading on the NYSE is restricted, as determined by the SEC;
- in which an emergency exists, as determined by the SEC, so that disposal of the Fund's investments or determination of its NAV is not reasonably practicable; or
- as the SEC may by order permit for the protection of Fund shareholders.

You will not accrue interest or dividends on uncashed redemption checks from the Fund when checks are undeliverable and returned to the Fund.

#### **Share Certificates**

The Fund does not issue share certificates.

## Account and Share Information

#### **CONFIRMATIONS AND ACCOUNT STATEMENTS**

Shareholders will receive confirmation of purchases and redemptions and periodic statements reporting all account activity, including dividends and capital gains paid.

Certain states, including the State of Texas, have laws that allow shareholders to designate a representative to receive abandoned or unclaimed property ("escheatment") notifications by completing and submitting a designation form that generally can be found on the official state website. If a shareholder resides in an applicable state and elects to designate a representative to receive escheatment notifications, escheatment notices generally will be delivered as required by such state laws, including, as applicable, to both the shareholder and the designated representative. A completed designation form may be mailed to the Fund (if Shares are held directly with the Fund) or to the shareholder's financial intermediary (if Shares are not held directly with the Fund). Shareholders should refer to relevant state law for the shareholder's specific rights and responsibilities under his or her state's escheatment law(s), which can generally be found on a state's official website.

#### **DIVIDENDS AND CAPITAL GAINS**

The Fund declares any dividends daily and pays them monthly to shareholders. If you purchase Shares by wire, you begin earning dividends on the day your wire is received. If you purchase Shares by check, you begin earning dividends on the business day after the Fund receives your check. In either case, you earn dividends through the day your redemption request is received. Dividends on investments in the Fund are generally paid in cash and dividend reinvestment is generally not available.

In addition, the Fund pays any capital gains at least annually, and may make such special distributions of dividends and capital gains as may be necessary to meet applicable regulatory requirements. If the Fund declares more than one distribution of capital gains during the course of a calendar year, the Fund will attempt to pay all distributions at one time at the end of the year.

Shares purchased just before the record date for a capital gain distribution will pay the full price for the shares and then receive a portion of the price back in the form of a taxable distribution. Investors should consider the tax implications of purchasing Shares shortly before the record date for a capital gain.

Under the federal securities laws, the Fund is required to provide a notice to shareholders regarding the source of distributions made by the Fund if such distributions are from sources other than ordinary investment income. In addition, important information regarding the Fund's distributions, if applicable, is available at <a href="FederatedHermes.com/us/product-landing/managed-account-pools.do">FederatedHermes.com/us/product-landing/managed-account-pools.do</a>. Select a product name, then click "Distributions and Taxes."

#### TAX INFORMATION

The Fund and/or your financial intermediary provides year-end tax information and an annual statement of each shareholder's account activity to assist shareholders in completing their federal, state and local tax returns. Fund distributions of dividends and capital gains are taxable to shareholders 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 shareholders as ordinary income. Distributions of net long-term capital gains are taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gains regardless of how long a shareholder has owned the Shares.

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

#### FREQUENT TRADING POLICIES

Frequent or short-term trading into and out of the Fund can have adverse consequences for the Fund and its shareholders who use the Fund as a long-term investment vehicle. Such trading in significant amounts can disrupt the Fund's investment strategies (e.g., by requiring it to sell investments at inopportune times or maintain excessive short-term cash positions to support redemptions), increase brokerage and administrative costs and affect the timing and amount of taxable gains distributed by the Fund. Investors engaged in such trading may also seek to profit by anticipating changes in the Fund's NAV in advance of the time as of which NAV is calculated. Given that: (a) the Fund is used exclusively to implement certain Fixed Income Strategies for Eligible Investors in Eligible Accounts and, to the extent permitted by applicable law, as an investment option for Affiliated Funds as described in this Prospectus; (b) FIC has the ability to limit Eligible Investors' investments in the Fund and Fund Share purchases, and redemptions for Eligible Accounts will be at the direction of FIC or another Discretionary Manager; (c) with respect to Eligible Accounts, Fund Share purchases and redemptions will be made on a frequent basis generally only for account initialization, rebalancing and liquidation purposes, or in order to invest new monies or accommodate reductions in Eligible Account size; and (d) individual

Eligible Investors will not be in a position to effect purchase or redemption orders directly, the Fund does not anticipate that, in the normal case, frequent or short-term trading into and out of the Fund will have significant unanticipated or adverse consequences for the Fund and its shareholders. For these reasons, the Fund's Board has not adopted policies or procedures to discourage frequent or short-term trading of the Fund's Shares.

Other funds in the Federated Hermes family of funds may impose monitoring policies. Under normal market conditions, such monitoring policies are designed to protect the funds being monitored and their shareholders, and the operation of such policies and shareholder investments under such monitoring are not expected to have materially adverse impact on the Federated Hermes funds or their shareholders. If you plan to purchase shares of another Federated Hermes fund, please read the prospectus of that other Federated Hermes fund for more information.

#### PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS INFORMATION

Information concerning the Fund's portfolio holdings is available at <u>FederatedHermes.com/us/product-landing/managed-account-pools.do</u>. Select a product name then click on "Characteristics." A complete listing of the Fund's portfolio holdings as of the end of each calendar quarter is posted on the website 30 days (or the next business day) after the end of the quarter and remains posted for six months thereafter.

Summary portfolio composition information as of the close of each month is posted on the website 15 days (or the next business day) after month-end and remains posted until replaced by the information for the succeeding month. The summary portfolio composition information may include identification of the Fund's top 10 holdings.

You may also access portfolio information as of the end of the Fund's fiscal quarters at <a href="FederatedHermes.com/us/">FederatedHermes.com/us/</a> <a href="Product-landing/managed-account-pools.do">Product-landing/managed-account-pools.do</a>. Select a product then click on "Documents." The Fund's Annual Shareholder Report and Semi-Annual Shareholder Report contain complete listings of the Fund's portfolio holdings as of the end of the Fund's second and fourth fiscal quarters. Fiscal quarter information is made available on the website within 70 days after the end of the fiscal quarter. This information is also available in reports filed with the SEC at the SEC's website at sec.gov.

Each fiscal quarter, the Fund will file with the SEC a complete schedule of its monthly portfolio holdings on "Form N-PORT." The Fund's holdings as of the end of the third month of every fiscal quarter, as reported on Form N-PORT, will be publicly available on the SEC's website at <a href="sec.gov">sec.gov</a> within 60 days of the end of the fiscal quarter upon filing. You may also access this information via the link to the Fund at <a href="FederatedHermes.com/us/product-landing/managed-account-pools.do">FederatedHermes.com/us/product-landing/managed-account-pools.do</a>.

In addition, from time to time (for example, during periods of unusual market conditions), additional information regarding the Fund's portfolio holdings and/or composition may be posted to FederatedHermes.com/us/product-landing/managed-account-pools.do. If and when such information is posted, its availability will be noted on, and the information will be accessible from, the home page of the website.

# 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 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

#### Jerome D. Conner

Jerome D. Conner, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since February of 2010. 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.

#### Brian S. Ruffner

Brian S. Ruffner, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since February of 2018.

Mr. Ruffner is responsible for providing research and advice on sector allocation and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 1994; has worked in investment management since 2001; has managed investment portfolios since 2009. Education: B.S., Indiana University of Pennsylvania; M.B.A., Duquesne University.

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 Adviser will not charge an advisory fee for its services to the Fund.

The Adviser's affiliate, FIC, may benefit from the Fund being used to implement Fixed Income Strategies for Eligible Investors' Eligible Accounts.

A discussion of the Board's review of the Fund's investment advisory contract is available in the Fund's Annual and Semi-Annual Shareholder Reports for the periods ended December 31 and June 30, respectively.

#### Financial Information

#### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

The Financial Highlights will help you understand the Fund's financial performance for its past five fiscal years. 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 Ernst & Young LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with the Fund's audited financial statements, is included in the Annual Report.

# Financial Highlights

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period)

		Year Ended December 31,				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$9.63	\$11.86	\$12.38	\$11.48	\$10.26	
Income From Investment Operations:						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>1</sup>	0.40	0.38	0.38	0.43	0.45	
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	0.46	(2.20)	(0.44)	0.91	1.22	
TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	0.86	(1.82)	(0.06)	1.34	1.67	
Less Distributions:						
Distributions from net investment income	(0.40)	(0.38)	(0.38)	(0.43)	(0.45)	
Distributions from net realized gain		(0.03)	(80.0)	(0.01)	_	
TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS	(0.40)	(0.41)	(0.46)	(0.44)	(0.45)	
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$10.09	\$9.63	\$11.86	\$12.38	\$11.48	
Total Return <sup>2</sup>	9.20%	(15.44)%	(0.41)%	11.88%	16.56%	
Ratios to Average Net Assets:						
Net expenses <sup>3,4</sup>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
Net investment income	4.13%	3.69%	3.19%	3.64%	4.11%	
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>5</sup>	0.26%	0.24%	0.23%	0.27%	0.30%	
Supplemental Data:						
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$155,899	\$134,660	\$182,389	\$143,775	\$105,126	
Portfolio turnover <sup>6</sup>	5%	7%	11%	13%	18%	

<sup>1</sup> Per share numbers have been calculated using the average shares method.

Further information about the Fund's performance is contained in the Fund's Annual Report, dated December 31, 2023, which can be obtained free of charge.

<sup>2</sup> Based on net asset value.

<sup>3</sup> Federated Investment Management Company (the "Adviser") has contractually agreed to reimburse all operating expenses, excluding extraordinary expenses, incurred by the Fund.

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

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.

# 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 no redemption of Shares. The chart also assumes that the Fund's annual expense ratio stays the same throughout the 10-year period (except for the impact of changes in contractual expense limitations) and that all dividends and distributions are reinvested. The annual expense ratio used in the chart is the same as stated in the "Fees and Expenses" table of this Prospectus (and thus does not reflect any other fee waiver or expense reimbursement currently in effect). The maximum amount of any sales charge that might be imposed on the *purchase* of Shares (and deducted from the hypothetical initial investment of \$10,000; the "Front-End Sales Charge") is reflected in the "Hypothetical Expenses" column. The hypothetical investment information does not reflect the effect of charges (if any) normally applicable to *redemptions* of Shares (e.g., deferred sales charges, redemption fees). Mutual 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 CORPORATE BOND STRATEGY PORTFOLIO ANNUAL EXPENSE RATIO: 0.00% 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	\$0.00	\$10,500.00
2	\$10,500.00	\$525.00	\$11,025.00	\$0.00	\$11,025.00
3	\$11,025.00	\$551.25	\$11,576.25	\$0.00	\$11,576.25
4	\$11,576.25	\$578.81	\$12,155.06	\$0.00	\$12,155.06
5	\$12,155.06	\$607.75	\$12,762.81	\$0.00	\$12,762.81
6	\$12,762.81	\$638.14	\$13,400.95	\$0.00	\$13,400.95
7	\$13,400.95	\$670.05	\$14,071.00	\$0.00	\$14,071.00
8	\$14,071.00	\$703.55	\$14,774.55	\$0.00	\$14,774.55
9	\$14,774.55	\$738.73	\$15,513.28	\$0.00	\$15,513.28
10	\$15,513.28	\$775.66	\$16,288.94	\$0.00	\$16,288.94
Cumulative		\$6,288.94		\$0.00	

Notes

An SAI dated February 29, 2024, is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus. Additional information about the Fund and its investments is contained in the Fund's SAI and Annual and Semi-Annual Reports to shareholders as they become available. 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 without charge, and to make inquiries, call your financial intermediary, Discretionary Manager or the Fund at 1-800-341-7400.

The Fund's shareholder reports will be made available on <u>FederatedHermes.com/us/FundInformation</u>, and you will be notified and provided with a link each time a report is posted to the website. You may request to receive paper reports from the Fund or from your financial intermediary, free of charge, at any time. You may also request to receive documents through e-delivery.

These documents, as well as additional information about the Fund (including portfolio holdings, performance and distributions) are also available at FederatedHermes.com/us/product-landing/managedaccount-pools.do.

You can obtain information about the Fund (including the SAI) by accessing Fund information from the EDGAR Database on the SEC's website at <a href="mailto:sec.gov">sec.gov</a>. You can purchase copies of this information by contacting the SEC by email at publicinfo@sec.gov.



Federated Hermes Corporate Bond Strategy Portfolio Federated Hermes Funds 4000 Ericsson Drive Warrendale, PA 15086-7561

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