

Private Offering Memorandum

February 27, 2025



High Yield Bond Core Fund

A Portfolio of Federated Hermes Core Trust

The securities described herein are offered pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (“1933 Act”), and Regulation D (including Rule 506(c)) thereunder, and have not been registered with or approved or disapproved by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or any other regulatory authority of any jurisdiction, nor has the SEC passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Private Offering Memorandum. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

A Statement of Additional Information (SAI), with respect to High Yield Bond Core Fund, a portfolio of Federated Hermes Core Trust (“Trust”), with the same date has been filed with the SEC, and is incorporated herein by reference. A copy of the SAI is available without charge by calling the Fund’s placement agent at 1-800-341-7400.

Shares of the Fund are not deposits or obligations of any bank, are not endorsed or guaranteed by the U.S. government, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency.

Shares of the Fund are being offered for investment only to investment companies, insurance company separate accounts, common or commingled trust funds or similar organizations or entities that are “accredited investors” within the meaning of Regulation D of the 1933 Act.

Investors will be required to represent that they meet certain financial requirements and that they are familiar with and understand the terms, risks and merits of an investment in the Fund.

No resale of Shares may be made unless the Shares are subsequently registered under the 1933 Act or an exemption from such registration is available.

This Private Offering Memorandum has been prepared solely for the information of the recipient and may not be reproduced, provided to others or used for any other purpose.

No person has been authorized to make representations or give any information with respect to the Shares, except the information contained herein or in the Trust’s registration statement filed under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (“1940 Act”).

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Federated Investment Management Company

Placement Agent
Federated Securities Corp.
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PART A: INFORMATION REQUIRED IN A PROSPECTUS

February 27, 2025

Items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 13 of Part A are omitted pursuant to Item B(2)(b) of the General Instructions to Form N-1A.

Please read this Private Offering Memorandum carefully before investing and retain it for future reference. It contains important information about the Fund that investors should know before investing.

A copy of a Subscription Agreement and Investor Questionnaire for use in subscribing to purchase Shares of the Fund accompanies delivery of this Private Offering Memorandum. In order to purchase Shares of the Fund, a prospective investor must satisfactorily complete, execute and deliver the Subscription Agreement and Investor Questionnaire to the Fund's Placement Agent.

Fund Summary Information

High Yield Bond Core Fund (the "Fund")

FUND MANAGEMENT

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

Kathryn P. Glass, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since September of 2023.

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

Thomas Scherr, CFA, Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since September of 2023.

PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES

Shares of the Fund have not been registered and are issued in reliance on Section 4(a)(2) of the 1933 Act and Regulation D (including, without limitation, Rule 506(c)) thereunder. Investments in the Fund may only be made by investment companies, insurance company separate accounts, common or commingled trust funds or similar organizations or entities that are "accredited investors" within the meaning of Regulation D of the 1933 Act. You may purchase or redeem Shares of the Fund on any day the New York Stock Exchange is open. There is no minimum required initial or subsequent investment amount. Redemption requests should be made in accordance with procedures established by the Transfer Agent by calling 1-800-341-7400.

TAX INFORMATION

The Fund's distributions are taxable as ordinary income or capital gains.

PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Federated Securities Corp. is the Trust's Placement Agent. It receives no fee for its services.

Investment Objective, Principal Investment Strategies and Related Risks

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek high current income.

PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

While there is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective, it endeavors to do so by following the strategies and policies described in this Private Offering Memorandum.

The Fund provides exposure to the high-yield lower-rated, corporate bond market. The Adviser actively manages the Fund's portfolio seeking to realize the potentially higher returns of high-yield bonds (also known as "junk bonds") compared to returns of investment-grade securities by seeking to minimize default risk and other risks through careful security selection and diversification. The Fund primarily invests in domestic high-yield bonds but may invest a portion of its portfolio in securities of issuers based outside of the United States (so-called "foreign securities") in developed markets. The Fund is not managed to specific maturity or duration requirements. A description of the various types of securities in which the Fund invests, and their risks, immediately follows the strategy discussion.

The Adviser selects securities that it believes have attractive risk-return characteristics. The securities in which the Fund invests have high yields primarily because of the market's greater uncertainty about the issuer's ability to make all required interest and principal payments, and therefore about the returns that will in fact be realized by the Fund.

The Adviser attempts to select bonds for investment by the Fund which offer high potential returns for the default risks being assumed. The Adviser's securities selection process consists of a credit-intensive, fundamental analysis of the issuing firm. The Adviser's analysis focuses on the financial condition of the issuing firm together with the issuer's business and product strength, competitive position and management expertise. Further, the Adviser considers current economic, financial market and industry factors, which may affect the issuer. The Adviser attempts to minimize the Fund's portfolio credit risk through diversification. The Adviser selects securities to maintain broad portfolio diversification both by company and industry. There is no minimal acceptable rating for a security to be purchased or held by the Fund and the Fund may purchase or hold unrated securities and securities whose issuers are in default. The Adviser does not target an average maturity for the Fund's portfolio.

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 at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in investments rated below investment grade (i.e., BB or lower by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO)). The Fund will notify shareholders 60 days in advance of any change in its investment policy that would enable the Fund to invest, under normal circumstances, less than 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in investments rated below investment grade (i.e., BB or lower by an NRSRO).

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 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.

Demand Instruments (A Type of Corporate Debt Security)

Demand instruments are corporate debt securities that require the issuer or a third party, such as a dealer or bank (the "Demand Provider"), to repurchase the security for its face value upon demand. Some demand instruments are "conditional," so that the occurrence of certain conditions relieves the Demand Provider of its obligation to repurchase the security. Other demand instruments are "unconditional," so that there are no conditions under which the Demand Provider's obligation to repurchase the security can terminate. The Fund treats demand instruments as short-term securities, even though their stated maturity may extend beyond one year.

Lower-Rated, Fixed-Income Securities

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

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.

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. 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.

Bank Instruments (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)

Bank instruments are unsecured, interest-bearing deposits with banks. Bank instruments include, but are not limited to, bank accounts, time deposits, certificates of deposit and banker's acceptances. Yankee instruments are denominated in U.S. dollars and issued by U.S. branches of foreign banks. Eurodollar instruments are denominated in U.S. dollars and issued by non-U.S. branches of U.S. or foreign banks.

Convertible Securities (A Fixed-Income Security)

Convertible securities are fixed-income securities or preferred stock that the Fund or, in some instances, its issuer, has the option to exchange for equity securities at a specified conversion price, or which are automatically exchanged for equity securities after a specified conversion period. The option allows the Fund to realize additional returns if the market price of the equity securities exceeds the conversion price. For example, the Fund may hold fixed-income securities that are convertible into shares of common stock at a conversion price of \$10 per share. If the market value of the shares of common stock reached \$12, the Fund could realize an additional \$2 per share by converting its fixed-income securities.

Convertible securities have lower yields than comparable fixed-income securities. In addition, at the time a convertible security is issued, the conversion price exceeds the market value of the underlying equity securities. Thus, convertible securities may provide lower returns than non-convertible, fixed-income securities or equity securities depending upon changes in the price of the underlying equity securities. However, convertible securities permit the Fund to realize some of the potential appreciation of the underlying equity securities with less risk of losing its initial investment.

The Fund treats convertible securities as fixed-income securities for purposes of its investment policies and limitations, because of their unique characteristics.

Preferred Stocks

Preferred stocks have the right to receive specified dividends or distributions before the issuer makes payments on its common stock. Some preferred stocks also participate in dividends and distributions paid on common stock. Preferred stocks may also permit the issuer to redeem the stock. The Fund may also treat such redeemable preferred stock as a fixed-income security.

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 Exchange Contracts

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

Loan Instruments (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)

The Fund may invest in loan (and loan-related) instruments, which are interests in amounts owed by a corporate, governmental or other borrower to lenders or groups of lenders known as lending syndicates ("loans" and "loan participations"). Such instruments may include loans made in connection with trade financing transactions.

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

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

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

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

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 currency swaps.

OTHER INVESTMENTS, TRANSACTIONS, TECHNIQUES

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.

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.

As the Fund’s derivative exposure, if any, is 10% or less of its net assets, excluding certain currency and interest rate hedging transactions, the Fund is classified as a limited derivatives user under the Derivatives Rule and will not be subject to the full requirements of the Derivatives Rule as noted above, including VAR testing and stress testing and certain Board reporting requirements. However, the Fund is still required to implement written compliance policies and procedures reasonably designed to manage its derivatives risks and monitor its derivatives exposure daily.

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.

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.

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 engagement and stewardship affiliate 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.

RISK ASSOCIATED WITH NONINVESTMENT-GRADE SECURITIES

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

ISSUER CREDIT RISK

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

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

Debt instruments 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.

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.

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 and/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 and loans may be particularly sensitive to changes in the economy.

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.

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. Noninvestment-grade securities generally have less liquidity than investment-grade securities.

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

Loan instruments may not be readily marketable and may be subject to restrictions on resale. In some cases, negotiations involved in disposing of loans may require weeks to complete. Thus, transactions in loan instruments may take longer than seven days to settle. This could pose a liquidity risk to the Fund. Additionally, collateral on loan instruments may consist of assets that may not be readily liquidated, and there is no assurance that the liquidation of such assets will satisfy a borrower's obligations under the instrument.

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.

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 and the Underlying Fund may have to reinvest the proceeds in other fixed-income securities with lower interest rates, higher credit risks or other less favorable characteristics.

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 OF FOREIGN INVESTING

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

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

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

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

The foreign sovereign debt securities the Fund purchases involve specific risks, including that: (i) the governmental entity that controls the repayment of sovereign debt may not be willing or able to repay the principal and/or interest when it becomes due because of political constraints, cash flow problems and other national economic factors; (ii) governments may default on their sovereign debt, which may require holders of such sovereign debt to participate in debt rescheduling or additional lending to defaulting governments; and (iii) there is no bankruptcy proceedings by which defaulted sovereign debt may be collected in whole or in part.

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. The laws of some foreign countries may limit the Fund's ability to invest in securities of certain issuers organized under the laws of those 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 Private Offering Memorandum 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.

CUSTODIAL SERVICES AND RELATED INVESTMENT COSTS

Custodial services and other costs relating to investment in international securities markets generally are more expensive than in the United States. Such markets have settlement and clearance procedures that differ from those in the United States. In certain markets, there have been times when settlements have been unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions, making it difficult to conduct such transactions. The inability of the Fund to make intended securities purchases due to settlement problems could cause the Fund to miss attractive investment opportunities. Inability to dispose of a portfolio security caused by settlement problems could result in losses to the Fund due to a subsequent decline in value of the portfolio security.

SHARE OWNERSHIP CONCENTRATION RISK

A majority of the Fund's Shares may be held by other mutual funds advised by the Adviser and its affiliates. It also is possible that some or all of these other mutual funds will decide to purchase or redeem Shares of the Fund simultaneously or within a short period of time of one another in order to execute their asset allocation strategies. Accordingly, there is a risk that the Share trading activities of these shareholders could disrupt the Fund's investment strategies which could have adverse consequences for the Fund and other shareholders (e.g., by requiring the Fund to sell investments at inopportune times or causing the Fund to maintain larger-than-expected cash positions pending acquisition of investments). Investments in the Fund by other investment companies also can create conflicts of interests for the Adviser to the Fund and the investment adviser to the acquiring fund. For example, a conflict of interest can arise due to the possibility that the investment adviser to the acquiring fund could make a decision to redeem the acquiring fund's investment in the Fund.

TECHNOLOGY RISK

The Adviser uses various technologies in managing the Fund, consistent with its investment objective(s) and strategy described in this Private Offering Memorandum. 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.

Management Organization and Capital Structure

INVESTMENT ADVISER

The Board of Trustees ("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 100 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 \$829.6 billion as of December 31, 2024. Federated Hermes was established in 1955 as Federated Investors, Inc. and is one of the largest investment managers in the United States with nearly 2,000 employees. Federated Hermes provides investment products to more than 10,000 investment professionals and institutions.

The Adviser advises approximately 69 registered investment companies and also manages sub-advised funds. The Adviser's assets under management totaled approximately \$531.7 billion as of December 31, 2024.

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Kathryn P. Glass

Kathryn P. Glass, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since September of 2023.

Ms. Glass is Co-Head of the Domestic High Yield Group. She is responsible for day to day management of the Fund focusing on security selection, overseeing the macro strategy of the Fund and general team oversight. She has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 1999, has worked in investment management since 1999, and has managed investment portfolios since 2014. Education: B.A., University of Pittsburgh; M.A., Cornell University; M.S.I.A., Carnegie Mellon University.

Mark E. Durbiano

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

Mr. Durbiano is Co-Head of the Domestic High Yield Group and Head of the Bond Sector/Pod Committee. He is responsible overseeing the macro strategy of the Fund, security selection and general team oversight. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 1982; has worked in investment management since 1982; has managed investment portfolios since 1984. Education: B.A., Dickinson College; M.B.A., University of Pittsburgh.

Thomas Scherr

Thomas Scherr, CFA, Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since September of 2023.

Mr. Scherr is responsible for providing research and advice on security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 2006, has worked in investment management since 2006, and has managed investment portfolios since 2014. Education: B.S., Lehigh University; M.B.A., Carnegie Mellon 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 does not receive a fee for its investment advisory services provided to the Fund. The Fund pays operating expenses associated with the operation and maintenance of the Fund (excluding fees and expenses that may be charged by the Adviser and its affiliates). Examples of such operating expenses include, but are not limited to, legal fees, auditor fees, director fees, custody fees, transfer agency fees and other services provider and third-party expenses. Although not contractually obligated to do so, the Adviser intends to voluntarily reimburse operating expenses (excluding Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses, extraordinary expenses, line of credit expenses and proxy-related expenses paid by the Fund, if any) such that the Fund will only bear such expenses in an amount of up to 0.15% of the Fund's average net assets. The Adviser reserves the right to modify or eliminate that voluntary reimbursement at any time in its sole discretion.

A discussion of the Board's review of the Fund's investment advisory contract is available in the Fund's Form N-CSR for the periods ended December 31 and June 30, respectively.

Shareholder Information

Shares of the Fund have not been registered and are issued in reliance on Section 4(a)(2) of the 1933 Act and Regulation D (including, without limitation, Rule 506(c)) thereunder. Investments in the Fund may only be made by investment companies, insurance company separate accounts, common or commingled trust funds or similar organizations or entities that are "accredited investors" within the meaning of Regulation D of the 1933 Act. This Private Offering Memorandum does not constitute an offer to sell, or the solicitation of an offer to buy, any "security" within the meaning of the 1933 Act.

RULE 506(e) DISCLOSURE MATTERS

Rule 506 of Regulation D under the 1933 Act requires disclosure if certain covered persons of the Fund, including the Fund itself; the Fund's investment adviser; the Fund's placement agent and/or the Fund's sub-placement agents, have been subject to certain regulatory events defined in Rule 506 ("Reportable Events") that occurred prior to September 23, 2013. Disclosure of a Reportable Event occurring after September 23, 2013 may also be required under certain circumstances.

Regulatory Action Initiated by the SEC

In November 2005, FIMC, FSC and FSSC (each as defined below) resolved certain matters in a settlement with the SEC in which FIMC, FSC and FSSC, without admitting or denying the findings by the SEC, consented to the SEC's issuance of a final order instituting administrative and cease-and-desist proceedings, making findings and imposing remedial sanctions and a cease-and-desist order.

It was alleged that Federated Investment Management Company (FIMC), a registered investment adviser to mutual funds in the Federated mutual fund complex (then known as the "Federated Funds"), and Federated Securities Corp. (FSC), distributor for the Federated Funds, approved three market timing arrangements without appropriate disclosure of the arrangements either to Federated Fund shareholders or to the relevant funds' boards of trustees. Specifically, during the period March 2002 through August 2003, FIMC and FSC were alleged to have approved "timing capacity" in certain mutual funds to three entities, and never to have disclosed these arrangements to Federated Fund shareholders. Allegedly, in return for its arrangement, one of the entities also made a separate investment of non-timed assets in a Federated Fund. In addition, Federated Shareholder Services Company (FSSC), formerly a registered transfer agent, was alleged to have allowed a customer and a Federated employee to late trade. The terms and conditions of the settlement are detailed at <http://www.sec.gov/litigation/admin/34-52839.pdf>.

CALCULATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

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

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

- Fixed-income securities are fair valued using price evaluations provided by a pricing service approved by the Adviser.

- Derivative contracts listed on exchanges are valued at their reported settlement or closing price, except that options are valued at the mean of closing bid and ask quotations.
- 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.

FREQUENT TRADING POLICIES

Frequent or short-term trading into and out of the Fund can have adverse consequences for the Fund and 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 or 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. The Fund is designed as an investment vehicle exclusively for “accredited investors,” such as other investment companies, insurance company separate accounts and similar organizations. The Fund is designed primarily for use by other funds managed by the Adviser and its affiliates as a substitute for direct investment in the types of securities held by the Fund. Given the limitation on the types of shareholders who may invest in the Fund, the sophistication of such shareholders and the expected role the Fund will play helping to efficiently diversify their investment portfolios, the Fund’s Board has not adopted policies and procedures to discourage frequent trading or short-term trading into and out of the Fund.

PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS INFORMATION

Information concerning the Fund’s portfolio holdings is available at FederatedHermes.com/us under the “Private Funds” section of the “Products” tab, where you will be directed to a statement of agreement that you are an “accredited investor” before proceeding. Click “I agree” to agree to the terms; then you will be taken to the “Private Funds” home page where you can select the appropriate asset class or category. Select a Fund to access the “Characteristics” tab. A complete listing of the Fund’s portfolio holdings as of the end of each month is posted on the website 15 days (or the next business day) after the end of the month 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 under the “Private Funds” section of the “Products” tab by following the directions listed above. The Fund’s Form N-CSR contains 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 sec.gov within 60 days of the end of the fiscal quarter upon filing. You may also access this information via the link to the Fund and share class name at FederatedHermes.com/us.

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. 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.

PURCHASE OF FUND SHARES

Shares of the Fund may be purchased any day the NYSE is open.

Purchases should be made in accordance with procedures established by the Fund’s Transfer Agent, SS&C GIDS, Inc.

Purchase orders for Shares of the Fund will receive the NAV next determined after the purchase order is received in proper form by the Transfer Agent.

Payment by federal funds must be received by the Trust’s custodian, State Street Bank and Trust Company, by the close of the Federal Reserve wire transfer system the next business day following receipt of the purchase order.

There is no minimum required initial or subsequent investment amount.

The Fund reserves the right to cease accepting investments in the Fund at any time or to reject any investment order.

REDEMPTION OF FUND SHARES

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.

Redemption requests will receive the NAV next determined after the request is received in proper form by the Transfer Agent.

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”).

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 for up to seven days:

- to allow your purchase to clear (as discussed below);
- 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 you request a redemption of Shares recently purchased by check (including a cashier’s check or certified check), money order, bank draft or ACH, your 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, your purchase order will be canceled and you will be responsible for any losses incurred by the Fund as a result of your canceled order.

In addition, the right of redemption may be suspended, or the payment of proceeds may be delayed beyond seven days, 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; or
- 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.

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

CONFIRMATIONS AND ACCOUNT STATEMENTS

Shareholders will receive confirmation of purchases and redemptions. In addition, shareholders will receive periodic statements reporting all account activity, including dividends and capital gains paid. The Fund will not issue share certificates.

DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

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.

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. Your dividends and capital gains distributions will be automatically reinvested in additional Shares without a sales charge, unless you elect cash payments. Dividends may also be reinvested without sales charges in shares of any class of any other Federated Hermes fund of which you are already a shareholder.

If you have elected to receive dividends and/or capital gain distributions in cash, and your check is returned by the postal or other delivery service as “undeliverable,” or you do not respond to mailings from Federated Hermes with regard to uncashed distribution checks, your distribution option will automatically be converted to having all dividends and capital gains reinvested in additional shares. No interest will accrue on amounts represented by uncashed distribution checks.

If you purchase Shares just before the record date for a capital gain distribution, you will pay the full price for the Shares and then receive a portion of the price back in the form of a taxable distribution, whether or not you reinvest the distribution in Shares. Therefore, you should consider the tax implications of purchasing Shares shortly before the record date for a capital gain. Contact your financial intermediary or the Fund for information concerning when dividends and capital gains will be paid.

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 FederatedHermes.com/us under the “Private Funds” section of the “Products” tab, where you will be directed to a statement of agreement that you are an “accredited investor” before proceeding. Click “I agree” to agree to the terms, then you will be taken to the “Private Funds” home page where you can select the appropriate asset class or category. Select a Fund to access the “Distributions and Taxes” tab.

TAX CONSEQUENCES

Fund distributions are taxable to the shareholder whether paid in cash or reinvested in the Fund. Dividends are taxable at different rates depending on the source of dividend income. Capital gains are taxable at different rates depending upon the length of time the Fund holds its assets.

Fund distributions are expected to be both dividends and capital gains. Redemptions are taxable sales.

Distribution Arrangements

Federated Securities Corp. is the Trust’s Placement Agent. It receives no fee for its services.

SPECIAL PROVISION FOR ABANDONED OR UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

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.

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 and that all dividends and distributions are reinvested. The annual expense ratio used in the chart represents the total of the Fund's "net expenses" plus any expense waiver/reimbursement as shown in the "Financial Highlights" table in the Fund's latest Annual Report. 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.

HIGH YIELD BOND CORE FUND

ANNUAL EXPENSE RATIO: 0.04%

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	\$4.10	\$10,496.00
2	\$10,496.00	\$524.80	\$11,020.80	\$4.30	\$11,016.60
3	\$11,016.60	\$550.83	\$11,567.43	\$4.52	\$11,563.02
4	\$11,563.02	\$578.15	\$12,141.17	\$4.74	\$12,136.55
5	\$12,136.55	\$606.83	\$12,743.38	\$4.98	\$12,738.52
6	\$12,738.52	\$636.93	\$13,375.45	\$5.22	\$13,370.35
7	\$13,370.35	\$668.52	\$14,038.87	\$5.48	\$14,033.52
8	\$14,033.52	\$701.68	\$14,735.20	\$5.75	\$14,729.58
9	\$14,729.58	\$736.48	\$15,466.06	\$6.04	\$15,460.17
10	\$15,460.17	\$773.01	\$16,233.18	\$6.34	\$16,226.99
Cumulative		\$6,277.23		\$51.47	

An SAI dated February 27, 2025, is incorporated by reference into this Private Offering Memorandum. Additional information about the Fund and its investments is contained in the Fund's SAI, Annual and Semi-Annual Reports to shareholders and in Form N-CSR as they become available. In Form N-CSR, you will find, among other information, the Fund's annual and semi-annual financial statements. The Annual Report's Management's Discussion of Fund Performance discusses market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year. The SAI contains a description of the Fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of its portfolio securities. To obtain the SAI, Annual Report, Semi-Annual Report and other information, such as financial statements, without charge, to make inquiries or request e-delivery, call your financial intermediary or the Fund at 1-800-341-7400. You may also access the Fund's Private Offering Memorandum, SAI, Annual Report, Semi-Annual Report, financial statements and other information on the Fund's website at FederatedHermes.com/us/FundInformation.

These documents, as well as additional information about the Fund (including portfolio holdings, performance and distributions) are also available at FederatedHermes.com/us/FundInformation under the "Private Funds" section of the "Products" tab. Click on the appropriate asset class or category where you will be directed to a statement of agreement that you are an "accredited investor" before proceeding. Click "I agree" to agree to the terms, then you will be taken to the "Private Funds" home page where you can select the appropriate asset class or category. Select a Fund to access an appropriate tab.

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



High Yield Bond Core Fund
Federated Hermes Funds
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Warrendale, PA 15086-7561

Investment Company Act File No. 811-8519

CUSIP 31409N101

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