

January 31, 2024

Federated **Federated** 

Ticker | FIBPX

# Federated Hermes International Bond Strategy Portfolio

A Portfolio of Federated Hermes Managed Pool Series

A mutual fund seeking to achieve a total return on its assets, by investing primarily in an emerging markets bond mutual fund and individual foreign government and corporate bonds in both developed and emerging markets. 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"), or its affiliates, or certain other discretionary managers. Shares of the Fund held for an eligible investor may be purchased only at the discretion 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.

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# Fund Summary Information

# Federated Hermes International Bond Strategy Portfolio (the "Fund")

# **RISK/RETURN SUMMARY: INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

The Fund's investment objective is to achieve total return on its assets, by investing primarily in foreign government and corporate bonds in both developed and emerging markets.

## **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	None
Distribution (12b-1) Fee	None
Other Expenses	1.54%
Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses	0.02%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	1.56%
Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements <sup>1</sup>	(1.54)%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements	0.02%

1 The Adviser will not charge a fee for its advisory services to the Fund. The Adviser has 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. 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 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	\$ 2
3 Years	\$ 6
5 Years	\$11
10 Years	\$26

# 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 76% of the average value of its portfolio.

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

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

The Fund pursues its investment objective by investing primarily in emerging markets fixed-income investments and non-dollar and dollar denominated fixed-income securities of foreign governments and their agencies or foreign corporations. Emerging markets fixed-income investments include debt securities issued by certain foreign governments or corporations and other types of investments and instruments such as derivatives. Emerging market countries' investments are those that are components of the Bloomberg Emerging Markets Seasoned ex Aggregate/Eurodollar Index. The Fund does not limit its investment to securities, including securities rated below investment grade, commonly called "junk bonds." The Fund invests in fixed-income securities of issuers in both developed and emerging market countries. When investing in emerging markets fixed-income securities, the Fund may invest in such securities directly or through investment in the Emerging Markets Core Fund (the "Underlying Fund"), a portfolio of Federated Hermes Core Trust. At times, the Fund's investment in the Underlying Fund may be a substantial portion of its portfolio.

The Fund may invest in debt investments denominated in any currency. Exposures to currencies other than the U.S. dollar may be hedged or unhedged at the sole discretion of the Fund's investment adviser (the "Adviser"). The Fund may buy or sell currencies in lieu of or in addition to non-U.S. dollar denominated fixed-income investments in order to increase or decrease its exposure to interest rate and/or currency markets.

Although not a part of the Fund's principal investment policies and strategies, when the Adviser considers the risk/ return prospects of emerging market equity instruments to be attractive, the Fund may also opportunistically invest up to 5% of its net assets in convertible investments, equity instruments or pooled vehicles such as exchange-traded funds (ETFs) or collective investment funds in order to gain exposure to a specific region, country, or market sector or for other reasons consistent with its investment strategy.

The Adviser actively manages the Fund's portfolio. The Adviser's investment process is primarily concerned with the selection of investments among foreign market debt securities (also known as "security selection"). The Fund has no duration target or parameters with respect to its average portfolio duration. Rather, the Adviser may lengthen or shorten average portfolio duration in response to changing market conditions. These duration adjustments can be made either by buying or selling portfolio investments or through the use of derivative contracts and/or hybrid instruments. 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 in the Fund's 80% policy (as described below) and are calculated at market value.

The investment process entails a thorough assessment of the global macroeconomic environment and determines the most relevant investment themes that drive foreign markets. These investment themes can be either secular or cyclical in nature and are intended to define guiding principles which permeate through the various stages of the investment process from country and sector to individual corporate issuer. In selecting investments, the Adviser gives emphasis to the underlying quality of issuers domiciled in foreign markets and emerging market countries. The Adviser performs intensive credit analysis of both sovereign and corporate debt issues. Secondarily, the Adviser considers the extent to which market interest rates may impact the potential investment return of foreign debt securities.

The Adviser analyzes credit by performing fundamental analysis of: (1) countries to find relatively favorable economic and political conditions; and (2) available instruments in selected countries. In selecting countries, the Adviser analyzes the financial condition of an emerging market country including its credit ratings, government finances and outstanding public debt, as well as the political environment of that country among other factors. The Adviser also considers how developments in other countries in the region or world might affect these factors. Using its analysis, the Adviser attempts to identify countries with favorable characteristics, such as strengthening economy, favorable inflation rate, sound budget policy or strong public commitment to repay government debt.

For investments in corporate issuers, the Adviser analyzes the business, competitive position and financial condition of the issuer to assess whether the instrument's risk is commensurate with its potential return.

The Fund is a non-diversified portfolio of Federated Hermes Managed Pool Series.

The Fund will invest its assets so that at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) are invested in fixed-income investments. The Fund will notify shareholders at least 60 days in advance of any change in its investment policy that would enable the Fund to invest, under normal circumstances, less than 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in 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. Shareholders of the Fund will be exposed to the same risks as the Underlying Fund, which broadly consist of the risks of investing in fixed-income securities of issuers in both developed and emerging market countries, as well as derivative contracts. The primary factors that may reduce the Fund's returns include:

- Underlying Fund Risk. The risk that the Fund's performance is closely related to the risks associated with the securities and other investments held by underlying funds and that the ability of a Fund to achieve its investment objective will depend upon the ability of underlying funds to achieve their respective investment objectives. The Fund bears Underlying Fund fees and expenses indirectly.
- Issuer Credit Risk.It is possible that interest or principal on securities will not be paid when due. Noninvestment-grade securities generally have a higher default risk than investment-grade securities. Such non-payment or default may reduce the value of the Fund's portfolio holdings, its share price and its performance.
- **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.
- 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. These features may make it more difficult to sell or buy a security at a favorable price or time. Consequently, the Fund or the Underlying Fund may have to accept a lower price to sell a security, sell other securities to raise cash or give up an investment opportunity, any of which could have a negative effect on the Fund or the Underlying Fund's performance.
- **Risk of Foreign Investing.** Because the Fund or the Underlying Fund invests in securities issued by foreign companies and national governments, the Fund's Share price may be more affected by foreign economic and political conditions, taxation policies and accounting and auditing standards than would otherwise be the case.
- Currency Risk. Exchange rates for currencies fluctuate daily. Accordingly, the Fund or the Underlying Fund may experience increased volatility with respect to the value of its Shares and its returns as a result of its exposure to foreign currencies through direct holding of such currencies or holding of non-U.S. dollar denominated securities.
- European Union and Eurozone Related Risk. A number of countries in the European Union (EU), including certain countries within the EU that have adopted the euro (Eurozone), have experienced, and may continue to experience, severe economic and financial difficulties. Additional countries within the EU may also fall subject to such difficulties. These events could negatively affect the value and liquidity of the Fund's investments in euro-denominated securities and derivatives contracts, securities of issuers located in the EU or with significant exposure to EU issuers or countries.
- **Risk of Investing in Emerging Market Countries.** Securities issued or traded in emerging markets generally entail greater risks than securities issued or traded in developed markets. Emerging market countries may have relatively unstable governments and may present the risk of nationalization of businesses, expropriation, confiscatory taxation or, in certain instances, reversion to closed market, centrally planned economies.
- Greater China Risk. Although larger and/or more established than many emerging markets, the markets of the Greater China region function in many ways as emerging markets, and carry the high levels of risks associated with emerging markets. Direct Investments in, or indirect exposure to, the Greater China region may be subject to the risks associated with trading on less-developed trading markets, in addition to acute political risks such as possible negative repercussions resulting from China's relationship with Taiwan or Hong Kong, restrictions on monetary repatriation, or other adverse government actions. As export-driven economies, the economies of countries in the Greater China region are affected by developments in the economies of their principal trading partners.
- 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 Associated with Noninvestment-Grade Securities.** Securities rated below investment grade, (which are also known as junk bonds), generally entail greater credit and liquidity risks than investment-grade securities. For example, their prices are more volatile, economic downturns and financial setbacks may affect their prices more negatively, and their trading market may be more limited. These securities are considered speculative with respect to the issuer's ability to pay interest and repay principal.

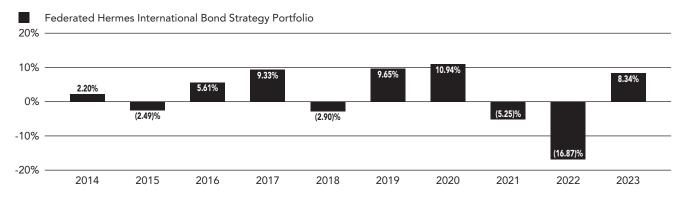
- Risk Related to the Economy. The value of the Fund's or the Underlying Fund's portfolio may decline in tandem with a drop in the overall value of the markets in which the Fund invests and/or other markets. Economic, political and financial conditions, industry or economic trends and developments or public health risks, such as epidemics or pandemics, may, from time to time, and for varying periods of time, cause the Fund to experience volatility, illiquidity, shareholder redemptions, or other potentially adverse effects. Among other investments, lower-grade bonds may be particularly sensitive to changes in the economy.
- Risk of Investing in Derivative Contracts and Hybrid Instruments. The Fund's or the Underlying Fund's use of 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 or the Underlying Fund and a potential reduction in gains to the Fund or the Underlying 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, currency, liquidity and leverage risks.
- **Risk of Non-Diversified Fund**. The Fund is non-diversified. Compared to diversified mutual funds, it may invest a higher percentage of its assets among fewer issuers of portfolio securities. In certain situations, being non-diversified may reduce the Fund's credit risk by enabling it to avoid investing in certain countries, regions or sectors that exhibit above average credit risk. However, being non-diversified may also increase the Fund's risk by magnifying the impact (positively or negatively) that only one issuer has on the Fund's share price and performance.
- Leverage Risk. Leverage risk is created when an investment, which includes, for example, an investment in a derivative contract, exposes the Fund or the Underlying Fund to a level of risk that exceeds the amount invested. Changes in the value of such an investment magnify the Fund's or the Underlying Fund's risk of loss and potential for gain.
- 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. The inability of the Fund or the Underlying Fund to make intended securities purchases due to settlement problems could cause the Fund or the Underlying Fund to miss attractive investment opportunities. In addition, security settlement and clearance procedures in some emerging market countries may not fully protect the Fund or Underlying Fund against loss of its assets.
- Share Ownership Concentration Risk. A majority of the Underlying 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 Underlying Fund simultaneously or within a short period of time of one another in order to execute their asset allocation strategies which could have adverse consequences for the Underlying Fund and other shareholders.
- Credit Enhancement Risk. The securities in which the Fund invests may be subject to credit enhancement (for example, guarantees, letters of credit or bond insurance). Credit enhancement is designed to help assure timely payment of the security; it does not protect the Fund against losses caused by declines in a security's value due to changes in market conditions.
- 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.

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 under the "Products" section at FederatedHermes.com/us or by calling 1-800-341-7400.



Within the periods shown in the bar chart, the Fund's highest quarterly return was 10.11% (quarter ended December 31, 2023). Its lowest quarterly return was (11.71)% (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 tax-deferred programs, such as a 401(k) plan, an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) or other tax-advantaged investment plan.

(For the Period Ended December 31, 2023)

Fund:	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
Return Before Taxes	8.34%	0.75%	1.49%
Return After Taxes on Distributions	6.80%	(0.37)%	0.27%
Return After Taxes on Distributions and Sale of Fund Shares	4.94%	0.14%	0.63%
Bloomberg Emerging Markets Seasoned ex Aggregate/Eurodollar Index <sup>1</sup> (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	13.10%	2.21%	3.58%
J.P. Morgan Global (ex-U.S.) Government Bond Index <sup>2</sup> (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	3.99%	(3.08)%	(1.35)%
Blended Index <sup>3</sup> (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	8.52%	(0.33)%	1.19%

1 The Bloomberg Emerging Markets Seasoned ex Aggregate/Eurodollar Index is the emerging markets debt component of the Bloomberg US Universal Bond Index and is generally at least 80% noninvestment-grade.

2 The J.P. Morgan Global (ex-U.S.) Government Bond Index tracks total returns for external-currency-denominated debt instruments of the emerging markets.

3 The Blended Index is comprised of 50% Bloomberg Emerging Markets Seasoned ex Aggregate/Eurodollar Index/50% J.P. Morgan Global (ex-U.S.) Government Bond Index.

#### FUND MANAGEMENT

The Fund's Investment Adviser is Federated Investment Management Company. John L. Sidawi, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since January of 2014. Ihab L. Salib, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since December of 2008.

#### 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 (see "How to Invest in the Fund") 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"). 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 achieve a total return on its assets, by investing primarily in foreign government and corporate bonds in both developed and emerging markets. 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 Prospectus.

The Fund pursues its investment objective by investing primarily in emerging markets fixed-income investments and non-dollar and dollar denominated fixed-income securities of foreign governments and their agencies or foreign corporations. The Fund does not limit its investment to securities of issuers in a particular market capitalization or maturity range or rating category. The Fund invests in fixed-income securities of issuers in both developed and emerging market countries. Emerging Market countries investments are those that are components of the Bloomberg Emerging Markets Seasoned ex Aggregate/Eurodollar Index. At any given time, the Fund may be invested entirely in fixed-income securities of developed countries or entirely in fixed-income securities of emerging market countries or a combination of both. The Fund's investments may be above or below investment grade in credit quality and the Fund can invest without limit in below investment-grade debt securities, commonly called "junk bonds." When investing in emerging Markets Core Fund (the "Underlying Fund"), a portfolio of Federated Hermes Core Trust. At times, the Fund's investment in the Underlying Fund"), a portfolio of its portfolio. The Fund may buy or sell foreign currencies in lieu of or in addition to non-dollar denominated fixed-income securities in order to increase or decrease its exposure to foreign interest rate and/or currency markets.

The Fund may invest in debt investments denominated in any currency. Exposure to currencies other than the U.S. dollar may be hedged or unhedged at the sole discretion of the Fund's investment adviser (the "Adviser"). The Fund may buy or sell currencies in lieu of or in addition to non-U.S. dollar denominated fixed-income investments in order to increase or decrease its exposure to interest rate and/or currency markets.

Although not a part of the Fund's principal investment policies and strategies, when the Adviser considers the risk/ return prospects of emerging market equity instruments to be attractive, the Fund may also opportunistically invest up to 5% of its net assets in convertible investments, equity instruments or pooled vehicles such as exchange-traded funds (ETFs) or collective investment funds in order to gain exposure to a specific region, country or market sector or for other reasons consistent with its investment strategy.

The Adviser actively manages the Fund's portfolio. The Adviser's investment process is primarily concerned with the selection of investments among foreign market debt securities (also known as "security selection"). The Fund has no duration target or parameters with respect to its average portfolio duration. Rather, the Adviser may lengthen or shorten average portfolio duration in response to changing market conditions. These duration adjustments can be made either by buying or selling portfolio investments or through the use of derivative contracts.

The investment process entails a thorough assessment of the global macroeconomic environment and determines the most relevant investment themes that drive foreign markets. These investment themes can be either secular or cyclical in nature and are intended to define guiding principles which permeate through the various stages of the investment process from country and sector to individual corporate issuer. In selecting investments, the Adviser gives emphasis to the underlying quality of issuers domiciled in foreign markets and emerging market countries. The Adviser performs intensive credit analysis of both sovereign and corporate debt issues. Secondarily, the Adviser considers the extent to which market interest rates may impact the potential investment return of foreign debt securities.

The Adviser analyzes credit by performing fundamental analysis of: (1) countries to find relatively favorable economic and political conditions; and (2) available instruments in selected countries. In selecting countries, the Adviser analyzes the financial condition of an emerging market country including its credit ratings, government finances and outstanding public debt, as well as the political environment of that country among other factors. The Adviser also considers how developments in other countries in the region or world might affect these factors. Using its analysis, the Adviser attempts to identify countries with favorable characteristics, such as strengthening economy, favorable inflation rate, sound budget policy or strong public commitment to repay government debt.

For investments in corporate issuers, the Adviser analyzes the business, competitive position and financial condition of the issuer to assess whether the instrument's risk is commensurate with its potential return.

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

From time to time, the Fund may hedge all or a portion of its currency risk by using derivatives contracts. 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 is a non-diversified portfolio of Federated Hermes Managed Pool Series.

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

## **TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS**

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

# Information About the Underlying Fund

The Underlying Fund is managed independently of the Fund and after waivers does not incur any additional expenses (except extraordinary expenses).

The investment objective of the Underlying Fund is to achieve a total return on its assets. The Underlying Fund's secondary investment objective is to achieve a high level of income. The Underlying Fund is non-diversified. Compared to diversified mutual funds, it may invest a higher percentage of its assets among fewer issuers of portfolio securities. This increases the Underlying Fund's risk by magnifying the impact (positively or negatively) that any one issuer has on the Fund's Share price and performance.

The Underlying Fund pursues its investment objective by investing primarily in emerging markets fixed-income investments. Emerging markets fixed-income investments include debt securities issued by foreign governments or corporations and other types of investments and instruments such as derivatives. Emerging market countries investments are those that are components of the Bloomberg Emerging Markets USD Aggregate Index (BEMAI).

Investors in emerging markets debt securities may receive higher yields in exchange for assuming the higher credit risks of the issuers and other market risks of investing in emerging market countries. Historically, returns of emerging markets debt securities have had low correlation with the returns of both lower-rated debt securities issued by corporations in the United States (high-yield bonds) and investment-grade securities of developed market countries. Low correlation means that adding emerging markets debt securities to a broader global fixed-income portfolio may reduce portfolio volatility and still provide the benefits of higher average portfolio returns over longer periods of time. There is no assurance that this relatively low correlation of returns will continue in the future.

The Underlying Fund's investment adviser (the "Underlying Fund's Adviser") actively manages the Underlying Fund's portfolio seeking total returns over longer time periods in excess of the Underlying Fund's benchmark, the BEMAI. The performance of the Underlying Fund, as an actively managed portfolio, should be evaluated against the BEMAI over longer periods of time. The high volatility of emerging markets means that even small differences in time periods for comparison can have a substantial impact on returns.

There can be no assurance that the Underlying Fund's Adviser will be successful in achieving investment returns in excess of the BEMAI.

The Underlying Fund's Adviser's investment process is primarily concerned with the selection of investments among emerging market debt securities (also known as "security selection"). The Underlying Fund's Adviser may lengthen or shorten average portfolio duration in response to changing market conditions within +/-20% of the duration of the BEMAI. These duration adjustments can be made by buying or selling portfolio investments or through the use of derivative contracts.

The investment process entails a thorough assessment of the global macroeconomic environment and determines the most relevant investment themes that drive emerging markets. These investment themes can be either secular or cyclical in nature and are intended to define guiding principles which permeate through the various stages of the investment process from country and sector to individual corporate issuer. In selecting investments, the Underlying Fund's Adviser gives emphasis to the underlying quality of issuers domiciled in emerging market countries. The Underlying Fund's Adviser performs intensive credit analysis of both sovereign and corporate debt issues. Secondarily, the Underlying Fund's Adviser considers the extent to which market interest rates may impact the potential investment return of emerging markets debt instruments.

The Underlying Fund's Adviser analyzes credit by performing fundamental analysis of: (1) countries to find relatively favorable economic and political conditions; and (2) available instruments in selected countries. In selecting countries, the Underlying Fund's Adviser analyzes the financial condition of an emerging market country including its credit ratings, government finances and outstanding public debt, as well as the political environment of that country among other factors. The Underlying Fund's Adviser also considers how developments in other countries in the region or world might affect these factors. Using its analysis, the Underlying Fund's Adviser attempts to identify countries with favorable characteristics, such as strengthening economy, favorable inflation rate, sound budget policy or strong public commitment to repay government debt.

For investments in corporate issuers, the Underlying Fund's Adviser analyzes the business, competitive position and financial condition of the issuer to assess whether the instrument's risk is commensurate with its potential return.

The Underlying Fund may use derivative contracts (including U.S. Treasury futures contracts) and/or hybrid instruments to implement elements of its investment strategy. For example, the Underlying 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 Underlying Fund may use derivative contracts in an attempt to:

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

The Underlying Fund's use of derivative contracts can be considered a speculative trading activity in the sense that there can be no assurance that the Underlying Fund's use of derivatives or hybrid investments will be successful or work as intended. Derivative investments made by the Fund are included within the Fund's 80% policy and are calculated at market value.

Because the Underlying Fund refers to emerging markets investments in its name, it will notify shareholders at least 60 days in advance of any change in its investment policies that would enable the Underlying Fund to normally invest less than 80% of its assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in emerging markets.

Shareholders of the Fund will be exposed to the same risks as the Underlying Fund, which broadly consist of the risks of investing in emerging markets fixed income securities as well as derivative contracts, as more fully described below.

# What are the Principal Securities in Which the Fund and the Underlying Fund May Invest?

The following provides general information on the Fund's and the Underlying Fund's principal investments. The Fund's Statement of Additional Information (SAI) provides information about the Fund's and the Underlying Fund's non-principal investments and may provide additional information about the Fund's and Underlying 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 fixed-income securities in which the Fund and the Underlying Fund principally invest:

#### **Foreign Securities**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Fund and Underlying Fund will also invest in high-yield and investment-grade securities of foreign corporations. Notes, bonds, debentures and commercial paper are the most prevalent types of corporate debt securities. The Fund and the Underlying Fund may also purchase interests in bank loans to companies. The credit risks of corporate debt securities vary widely among issuers.

The credit risk of an issuer's debt security may also 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.

#### Foreign Exchange Contracts

In order to convert U.S. dollars into the currency needed to buy a foreign security, or to convert foreign currency received from the sale of a foreign security into U.S. dollars, the Fund or the Underlying Fund may enter into spot currency trades. In a spot trade, the Fund or the Underlying Fund agree to exchange one currency for another at the current exchange rate. The Fund or the Underlying 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 and the Underlying Fund's exposure to currency risks. The Fund or Underlying Fund may use both spot trades and currency derivatives to increase or decrease its exposure to foreign interest rate and/or currency markets.

# 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 form 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.

#### 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.

## Loan Instruments (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)

The Fund and the Underlying 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 or Underlying Fund were determined to be subject to the claims of the agent bank's general creditors, the Fund or Underlying 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 and the Underlying Fund may invest may involve borrowers, agent banks, co-lenders and collateral located both in the United States and outside of the United States (in both developed and emerging markets).

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

#### 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.

#### **Credit Enhancement**

Credit enhancement consists of an arrangement in which a company agrees to pay amounts due on a fixed-income security if the issuer defaults. In some cases the company providing credit enhancement makes all payments directly to the security holders and receives reimbursement from the issuer. Normally, the credit enhancer may have greater financial resources and liquidity than the issuer. For this reason, the Adviser may evaluate the credit risk of a fixed-income security based solely upon its credit enhancement.

# **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 the Underlying Fund and, therefore, is not subject to registration or regulation as a commodity pool operator under the Act with respect to the Fund and Underlying Fund. Futures contracts traded OTC are frequently referred to as forward contracts. The Fund and the Underlying 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.

## **Currency Futures and Currency Forward Contracts (Types of Futures Contracts)**

A currency futures contract is an exchange-traded contract to buy or sell a particular currency at a specific price at some time in the future (commonly three months or more). A currency forward contract is not an exchange-traded contract and represents an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date, at a price set at the time of the contract and for a period agreed upon by the parties which may be either a window of time or a fixed number of days from the date of the contract. Currency futures and forward contracts are highly volatile, with a relatively small price movement potentially resulting in substantial gains or losses to the Fund. Additionally, the Fund may lose money on currency futures and forward contract were to default.

## **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 and the Underlying 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 and the Underlying Fund may invest include interest rate swaps, caps and floors, total return swaps, credit default swaps, currency swaps and volatility swaps.

#### OTHER INVESTMENTS, TRANSACTIONS, TECHNIQUES

#### **Repurchase Agreements**

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

The Fund's custodian or 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.

#### **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 and the Underlying 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 or the Underlying 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") with respect to 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.

### **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.

# 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. The Fund may also invest in emerging market debt primarily by investing in another investment company (which is not available for general investment by the public) that owns those securities and that is advised by an affiliate of the Adviser. The Fund may also invest in such securities directly. These other investment companies are managed independently of the Fund and incur additional fees and/or expenses which would, therefore, be borne indirectly by the Fund in connection with any such investment. These investments also can create conflicts of interests for the Adviser to the Fund and the investment adviser to the acquired fund. For example, a conflict of interest can arise due to the possibility that the Adviser to the Fund could make a decision to redeem the Fund's investment in the acquired fund. In the case of an investment in an affiliated fund, a conflict of interest can arise if, because of the Fund's investment in the acquired fund, the acquired fund is able to garner more assets, thereby growing the acquired fund and increasing the management fees received by the investment adviser to the acquired fund, which would either be the Adviser or an affiliate of the Adviser. However, the Adviser believes that the benefits and efficiencies of making investments in other investment companies should outweigh the potential additional fees and/or expenses and resulting conflicts of interest. In light of the Fund's investments in other investment companies, other registered investment companies may be limited in their ability to invest in the Fund.

#### **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.

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

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

## Additional Information Regarding the Security Selection Process

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

# What are the Specific Investment Risks of the Fund and the Underlying Fund?

Shareholders of the Fund will be exposed to the following risks either directly to the extent that the Fund invests in securities directly or indirectly to the extent that the Fund invests in the Underlying Fund. The Fund, or the Underlying Fund, may invest in other types of securities as a non-principal investment; risks associated with investing in such other securities are described in the Fund's SAI.

## **UNDERLYING FUND RISK**

The risk that the Fund's performance is closely related to the risks associated with the securities and other investments held by Underlying Funds and that the ability of a Fund to achieve its investment objective will depend upon the ability of Underlying Funds to achieve their respective investment objectives. The Fund bears Underlying Fund fees and expenses indirectly.

## **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 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.

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.

The credit risks of corporate debt instruments vary widely among issuers. The credit risk of an issuer's debt security may also vary based on its priority for repayment. For example, higher ranking ("senior") debt instruments 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.

#### 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.

# 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 or the Underlying 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 or the Underlying 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 or the Underlying Fund may not be able to sell a security or close out a derivative contract when it wants to. If this happens, the Fund or the Underlying Fund will be required to continue to hold the security or keep the position open, and the Fund or the Underlying 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.

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

#### **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 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 or the Underlying 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 or the Underlying 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 and Underlying 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 or the Underlying Fund's ability to invest in securities of certain issuers organized under the laws of those foreign countries.

#### **CURRENCY RISK**

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

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

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

#### EUROPEAN UNION AND EUROZONE RELATED RISK

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

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

In addition, one or more countries may withdraw from the EU, and one or more countries within the Eurozone may abandon the euro. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, could be significant and far-reaching. On January 31, 2020, the United Kingdom (UK) left the EU, commonly referred to as "Brexit," and there commenced a transition period during which the EU and UK negotiated and agreed on the nature of their future relationship, with such agreements becoming effective on December 31, 2020. There is significant market uncertainty regarding Brexit's ramifications, and the range and potential implications of possible political, regulatory, economic and market outcomes are difficult to predict. This long-term uncertainty may affect other countries in the EU and elsewhere and may cause volatility within the EU, triggering prolonged economic downturns in certain countries within the EU. In addition, Brexit may create additional and substantial economic stresses for the UK, including a contraction of the UK economy and price volatility in UK stocks, decreased trade, capital outflows, devaluation of the British pound, wider corporate bond spreads due to uncertainty and declines in business and consumer spending as well as foreign direct

investment. Brexit may also adversely affect UK-based financial firms, including certain sub-advisers to the Federated Hermes Funds, that have counterparties in the EU or participate in market infrastructure (trading venues, clearinghouses, settlement facilities) based in the EU. These events and the resulting market volatility may have an adverse effect on the performance of the Fund.

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

Securities issued or traded in emerging markets, including frontier markets, generally entail greater risks than securities issued or traded in developed markets. For example, the prices of such securities may be significantly more volatile than prices of securities in developed countries. Emerging market economies may also experience more severe down-turns (with corresponding currency devaluations) than developed economies. The economies of frontier market countries generally are smaller than those of traditional emerging market countries, and frontier capital markets and legal systems are typically less developed. As a result, investments in frontier markets are subject to increased risks from extreme price volatility and illiquidity, government ownership of private enterprise or other protectionism, volatile currency movements, inadequate investor protection, and fraud and corruption.

Emerging market countries may have relatively unstable governments and may present the risks of nationalization of businesses, expropriation, confiscatory taxation or, in certain instances, reversion to closed market, centrally planned economies. These same risks exist and may be greater in frontier markets.

# **GREATER CHINA RISK**

Although larger and/or more established than many emerging markets, the markets of the Greater China region function in many ways as emerging markets, and carry the high levels of risks associated with emerging markets. Direct investments in, or indirect exposure to, the Greater China region may be subject to the risks associated with trading on less-developed trading markets, in addition to acute political risks such as possible negative repercussions resulting from China's relationship with Taiwan or Hong Kong, restrictions on monetary repatriation, or other adverse government actions. The attitude of the Chinese government toward growth and capitalism is uncertain, and the markets of Hong Kong and China could be hurt significantly by any government interference or any material change in government policy. For example, the Chinese government may restrict investment in companies or industries considered important to national interests, or intervene in the financial markets, such as by imposing trading restrictions, or banning or curtailing short selling. As export-driven economies, the economies of countries in the Greater China region are affected by developments in the economies of their principal trading partners. A downturn in these economies could slow or eliminate the growth of the economies of the Greater China region and adversely impact the Fund's 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 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.

#### **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 may be particularly sensitive to changes in the economy.

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

The Fund's or the Underlying 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 and the Underlying Fund invest 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 and the Underlying 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 the Underlying Fund and their shareholders. For example, derivative contracts and hybrid instruments may cause the Fund and the Underlying 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 and the Underlying 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 and the Underlying Fund, if the value of the Fund's and the Underlying 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 and the Underlying Fund's investments. Any such termination of the Fund's and the Underlying Fund's OTC derivative contracts may adversely affect the Fund (for example, by increasing losses and/or costs, and/or preventing the Fund and the Underlying Fund from fully implementing their investment strategies). Sixth, the Fund or the Underlying 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 or the Underlying Fund makes a profit on the difference (less any payments the Underlying 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 Fund or the Underlying Fund. The Reference Instrument may instead appreciate in value creating a loss for the Fund or Underlying 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 and the Underlying Fund to losses, increase its costs, or prevent the Fund and the Underlying 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, currency, liquidity and leverage risks.

## **RISK OF NON-DIVERSIFIED FUND**

The Fund is non-diversified. Compared to diversified mutual funds, it may invest a higher percentage of its assets among fewer issuers of portfolio securities. In certain situations, being non-diversified may reduce the Fund's credit risk by enabling it to avoid investing in certain countries, regions or sectors that exhibit above average credit risk. However, being non-diversified may also increase the Fund's risk by magnifying the impact (positively or negatively) that only one issuer has on the Fund's share price and performance.

#### LEVERAGE RISK

Leverage risk is created when an investment, which includes, for example, an investment in a derivative contract, exposes the Fund or the Underlying Fund to a level of risk that exceeds the amount invested. Changes in the value of such an investment magnify the Fund's or the Underlying 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 or the Underlying Fund to make intended securities purchases due to settlement problems could cause the Fund or the Underlying Fund to miss attractive investment opportunities. Inability to dispose of a portfolio security caused by settlement problems could result in losses to the Fund or the Underlying Fund due to a subsequent decline in value of the portfolio security. In addition, security settlement and clearance procedures in some emerging countries may not fully protect the Fund or the Underlying Fund or the Underlying Fund settlement as the settlement and clearance procedures in some emerging countries may not fully protect the Fund or the Underlying Fund against loss of their assets.

#### SHARE OWNERSHIP CONCENTRATION RISK

A majority of the Underlying 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 Underlying 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 Underlying Fund's investment strategies which could have adverse consequences for the Underlying Fund and other shareholders (e.g., by requiring the Underlying Fund to sell investments at inopportune times or causing the Underlying Fund to maintain larger-than-expected cash positions pending acquisition of investments).

#### **CREDIT ENHANCEMENT RISK**

The securities in which the Fund invests may be subject to credit enhancement (for example, guarantees, letters of credit or bond insurance). Credit enhancement is designed to help assure timely payment of the security; it does not protect the Fund against losses caused by declines in a security's value due to changes in market conditions. Securities subject to credit enhancement generally would be assigned a lower credit rating if the rating were based primarily on the credit quality of the issuer without regard to the credit enhancement. If the credit quality of the credit enhancement provider (for example, a bank or bond insurer) is downgraded, the rating on a security credit enhanced by such credit enhancement provider also may be downgraded.

A single enhancement provider may provide credit enhancement to more than one of the Fund's investments. Having multiple securities credit enhanced by the same enhancement provider will increase the adverse effects on the Fund that are likely to result from a downgrading of, or a default by, such an enhancement provider. Adverse developments in the banking or bond insurance industries also may negatively affect the Fund, as the Fund may invest in securities credit enhanced by banks or by bond insurers without limit. Bond insurers that provide credit enhancement for large segments of the fixed-income markets, including the municipal bond market, may be more susceptible to being downgraded or defaulting during recessions or similar periods of economic stress.

### **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. 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."

Eligible Investors in the Fund do not include 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 Adviser 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, managing its uninvested cash and/or other investment reasons consistent with the Fund's investment objective and investment strategies. 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 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 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.

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." As a result, at any time, shareholders of the Fund may include Eligible Investors and, to the extent permitted under applicable law, Affiliated Funds.

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.

# Valuation of Portfolio Securities by the Fund and the Underlying Fund

Each of the Fund and the Underlying Fund generally values portfolio securities in calculating NAV 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 and the Underlying 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 and the Underlying Fund use the fair value of the investment determined in accordance with the procedures generally described below. There can be no assurance that the Fund and the Underlying 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, the Board of Trustees (Board) has designated the Adviser as the Fund's and Underlying 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 and the Underlying Fund's Statements of Additional Information (SAI) discuss 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 and the Underlying 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 and the Underlying Fund. For example, such arbitrage opportunities may exist when the market on which portfolio securities are traded closes before the Fund and the Underlying Fund calculate their 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 and the Underlying Fund employ 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 and pays any dividends annually to shareholders. Dividends are paid to all shareholders invested in the Fund on the record date. The record date is the date on which a shareholder must officially own Shares in order to earn a dividend. 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. 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 <u>FederatedHermes.com/us/product-landing/managedaccount-pools.do</u>. 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.

The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies whose boards have determined not to adopt frequent trading policies. The Fund therefore may be exposed to any adverse consequences of any frequent or short-term trading in such funds, to the extent of the Fund's investment therein.

#### PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS INFORMATION

Information concerning the Fund's portfolio holdings is available at <u>FederatedHermes.com/us/product-landing/</u> <u>managedaccount-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 <u>FederatedHermes.com/us/</u> <u>product-landing/managedaccount-pools.do</u>. Select a product name, 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 <u>sec.gov</u>.

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 <u>sec.gov</u> 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 <u>FederatedHermes.com/</u> 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 Federated Hermes's website. 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 \$715.2 billion as of September 30, 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

# John L. Sidawi

John L. Sidawi, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since January of 2014.

Mr. Sidawi is responsible for day to day management of the Fund focusing on asset allocation, interest rate strategy and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 1997; has worked in investment management since 1998; has managed investment portfolios since 2014. Education: B.B.A. Hofstra University.

# Ihab L. Salib

Ihab L. Salib, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since December of 2008.

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

As described in this Prospectus, the Fund may also gain exposure to emerging market fixed-income securities by investing in the Underlying Fund. Mr. Salib also serves as a portfolio manager for the Underlying Fund.

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

# **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 November 30 and May 31, 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 November 30,					
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019		
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$11.70	\$14.83	\$15.59	\$14.75	\$14.01		
Income From Investment Operations:							
Net investment income <sup>1</sup>	0.57	0.52	0.62	0.51	0.53		
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(0.06)	(2.94)	(1.05)	0.83	0.81		
TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	0.51	(2.42)	(0.43)	1.34	1.34		
Less Distributions:							
Distributions from net investment income		(0.71)	(0.33)	(0.50)	(0.60)		
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$12.21	\$11.70	\$14.83	\$15.59	\$14.75		
Total Return <sup>2</sup>	4.36%	(17.16)%	(2.90)%	9.34%	9.92%		

#### Ratios to Average Net Assets:

Net expenses <sup>3,4</sup>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Net investment income	4.81%	3.95%	4.01%	3.49%	3.66%
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>5</sup>	1.54%	0.94%	0.49%	0.93%	1.24%
Supplemental Data:					
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$22,043	\$13,251	\$62,853	\$52,037	\$23,369
Portfolio turnover <sup>6</sup>	76%	15%	53%	69%	52%

1 Per share numbers have been calculated using the average shares method.

2 Based on net asset value.

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

4 See Note, Investment Adviser Fee and Other Transactions with Affiliates.

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

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

Further information about the Fund's performance is contained in the Fund's Annual Report, dated November 30, 2023, which can be obtained free of charge.

# Appendix A: Hypothetical Investment and Expense Information

The following chart provides additional hypothetical information about the effect of the Fund's expenses, including investment advisory fees and other Fund costs, on the Fund's assumed returns over a 10-year period. The chart shows the estimated expenses that would be incurred in respect of a hypothetical investment of \$10,000, assuming a 5% return each year, and 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 is the same as stated in the "Fees and Expenses" table of this Prospectus (and thus does not reflect any fee waiver or expense reimbursement currently in effect). The 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 INTERNATIONAL BOND STRATEGY PORTFOLIO ANNUAL EXPENSE RATIO: 0.02% 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	\$2.05	\$10,498.00
2	\$10,498.00	\$524.90	\$11,022.90	\$2.15	\$11,020.80
3	\$11,020.80	\$551.04	\$11,571.84	\$2.26	\$11,569.64
4	\$11,569.64	\$578.48	\$12,148.12	\$2.37	\$12,145.81
5	\$12,145.81	\$607.29	\$12,753.10	\$2.49	\$12,750.67
6	\$12,750.67	\$637.53	\$13,388.20	\$2.61	\$13,385.65
7	\$13,385.65	\$669.28	\$14,054.93	\$2.74	\$14,052.26
8	\$14,052.26	\$702.61	\$14,754.87	\$2.88	\$14,752.06
9	\$14,752.06	\$737.60	\$15,489.66	\$3.02	\$15,486.71
10	\$15,486.71	\$774.34	\$16,261.05	\$3.17	\$16,257.95
Cumulative		\$6,283.07		\$25.74	

Notes

An SAI dated January 31, 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 <u>sec.gov</u>. You can purchase copies of this information by contacting the SEC by email at publicinfo@sec.gov.



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

Contact us at **FederatedHermes.com/us** or call 1-800-341-7400.

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Investment Company Act File No. 811-21822

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