

# Summary Prospectus



**December 31, 2023**

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*Disclosure contained herein relates to all classes of the Fund, as listed below, unless otherwise noted.*

**Share Class** | Ticker    **A** | SVAAX    **C** | SVACX    **Institutional** | SVAIX    **R6** | SVALX

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## Federated Hermes Strategic Value Dividend Fund

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A Portfolio of Federated Hermes Equity Funds

Before you invest, you may want to review the Fund's Prospectus, which contains more information about the Fund and its risks. You can find the Fund's Prospectus and other information about the Fund, including the Statement of Additional Information and most recent reports to shareholders, online at [FederatedInvestors.com/FundInformation](https://FederatedInvestors.com/FundInformation). You can also get this information at no cost by calling 1-800-341-7400, by sending an email request via Contact Us on [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://FederatedHermes.com/us), or from a financial intermediary through which Shares of the Fund may be bought or sold. The Fund's Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, both dated December 31, 2023, are incorporated by reference into this Summary Prospectus.

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A mutual fund seeking to provide income and long-term capital appreciation by investing primarily in high dividend-paying stocks with dividend growth potential.

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

# Fund Summary Information

## Federated Hermes Strategic Value Dividend Fund (the “Fund”)

### RISK/RETURN SUMMARY: INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Fund’s investment objective is to provide income and long-term capital appreciation.

### RISK/RETURN SUMMARY: FEES AND EXPENSES

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell the Fund’s Class A Shares (A), Class C Shares (C), Institutional Shares (IS) and Class R6 Shares (R6). **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.** You may qualify for certain sales charge discounts if you and your family invest, or agree to invest in the future, at least \$50,000 in certain classes (e.g., A class) of Federated Hermes Funds. More information about these and other discounts is available from your financial professional, in the “What Do Shares Cost?” section of the Prospectus on page 14 and in “Appendix B” to this Prospectus.

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

	A	C	IS	R6
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Purchases (as a percentage of offering price).....	5.50%	None	None	None
Maximum Deferred Sales Charge (Load) (as a percentage of original purchase price or redemption proceeds, as applicable) .....	0.00%	1.00%	None	None
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Reinvested Dividends (and other Distributions) (as a percentage of offering price) .....	None	None	None	None
Redemption Fee (as a percentage of amount redeemed, if applicable) .....	None	None	None	None
Exchange Fee.....	None	None	None	None

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

	A	C	IS	R6
Management Fee.....	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%
Distribution (12b-1) Fee .....	0.00% <sup>1</sup>	0.75%	None	None
Other Expenses .....	0.43%	0.44%	0.19%	0.11%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses.....	1.18%	1.94%	0.94%	0.86%
Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements <sup>2</sup> .....	(0.12)%	(0.07)%	(0.13)%	(0.07)%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements .....	1.06%	1.87%	0.81%	0.79%

1 The Fund has adopted a Distribution (12b-1) Plan for its Class A Shares pursuant to which the A class of the Fund may incur and pay a Distribution (12b-1) Fee of up to a maximum amount of 0.05%. No such fee is currently incurred and paid by the A class of the Fund. The A class of the Fund will not incur and pay such a Distribution (12b-1) Fee until such time as approved by the Fund’s Board of Trustees (the “Trustees”).

2 The Adviser and certain of its affiliates on their own initiative have agreed to waive certain amounts of their respective fees and/or reimburse expenses. Effective January 1, 2024, total annual fund operating expenses (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, tax reclaim recovery expenses, interest expense, extraordinary expenses and proxy-related expenses paid by the Fund, if any) paid by the Fund's A, C, IS and R6 classes (after the voluntary waivers and/or reimbursements) will not exceed 1.05%, 1.86%, 0.80% and 0.78% (the "Fee Limit"), respectively, up to but not including the later of (the "Termination Date"): (a) January 1, 2025; or (b) the date of the Fund's next effective Prospectus. While the Adviser and its affiliates currently do not anticipate terminating or increasing these arrangements prior to the Termination Date, these arrangements may only be terminated or the Fee Limit increased prior to the Termination Date with the agreement of the Trustees.

**Example**

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

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. Expenses assuming no redemptions are also shown. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect sales charges (loads) on reinvested dividends. If these sales charges (loads) were included, your costs would be higher. Although your actual costs and returns may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

Share Class	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
<b>A:</b>				
Expenses assuming redemption	\$664	\$904	\$1,163	\$1,903
Expenses assuming no redemption	\$664	\$904	\$1,163	\$1,903
<b>C:</b>				
Expenses assuming redemption	\$297	\$609	\$1,047	\$2,067
Expenses assuming no redemption	\$197	\$609	\$1,047	\$2,067
<b>IS:</b>				
Expenses assuming redemption	\$ 96	\$300	\$ 520	\$1,155
Expenses assuming no redemption	\$ 96	\$300	\$ 520	\$1,155
<b>R6:</b>				
Expenses assuming redemption	\$ 88	\$274	\$ 477	\$1,061
Expenses assuming no redemption	\$ 88	\$274	\$ 477	\$1,061

## **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 35% 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 high dividend-paying common stocks with dividend growth potential. The Fund generally invests in large-cap or mid-cap stocks (which are generally defined as of the date of this Prospectus as stocks of companies with market capitalizations above \$7 billion and \$2 billion, respectively) of U.S. issuers, and may also hold foreign stocks including depositary receipts. The Fund may also invest in real estate investment trusts. The Fund’s investment adviser (“Adviser”) believes a strategic emphasis on high dividend-paying stocks with the potential for future dividend growth can enhance performance over time. The Adviser defines high-dividend paying stocks as those with a higher dividend yield than the S&P 500 Index’s average dividend yield. The Adviser believes that this is achievable while targeting long-term dividend growth and lower volatility than the index, as measured by standard deviation.

The Adviser’s security selection process involves prioritizing stocks based on attractive combinations of dividend yield and dividend growth potential over time following review of appropriate fundamental criteria, including, but not limited to, balance sheet strength, earnings growth, and cash flow durability. Those companies that rank as highly attractive in the prioritization process are closely scrutinized for inclusion in the portfolio using bottom-up fundamental proprietary research. The Fund may use derivative contracts, in particular forward contracts, to manage or hedge the Fund’s currency exposure. There can be no assurance that the Fund’s use of derivative contracts will work as intended. Derivative investments made by the Fund are included within the Fund’s 80% policy (as described below) and are calculated at market value.

The Fund will invest its assets so that at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) are invested in dividend-paying securities. 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 dividend-paying securities.

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

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

- **Stock Market Risk.** The value of equity securities in the Fund's portfolio will fluctuate and, as a result, the Fund's Share price may decline suddenly or over a sustained period of time. Information publicly available about a company, whether from the company's financial statements or other disclosures or from third parties, or information available to some but not all market participants, can affect the price of a company's shares in the market. Among other factors, equity securities may decline in value because of an increase in interest rates or changes in the stock market. Recent and potential future changes in industry and/or economic trends, as well as changes in monetary policy made by central banks and/or their governments, also can affect the level of interest rates and contribute to the development of or increase in volatility, illiquidity, shareholder redemptions and other adverse effects (such as a decline in a company's stock price), which could negatively impact the Fund's performance.
- **Mid-Cap Company Risk.** The Fund may invest in mid-capitalization (or "mid-cap") companies. Mid-cap companies often have narrower markets, limited managerial and financial resources, more volatile performance and greater risk of failure, compared to larger, more established companies. These factors could increase the volatility of the Fund's portfolio, performance and Share price.
- **Large-Cap Company Risk.** The Fund may invest in large capitalization (or "large-cap") companies. Large-cap companies may have fewer opportunities to expand the market for their products or services, may focus their competitive efforts on maintaining or expanding their market share, and may be less capable of responding quickly to competitive challenges. These factors could result in the share price of large companies not keeping pace with the overall stock market or growth in the general economy, and could have a negative effect on the Fund's portfolio, performance and Share price.
- **Risk Related to the Economy.** The value of the Fund's portfolio may decline in tandem with a drop in the overall value of the markets in which the Fund invests and/or other markets. Economic, political and financial conditions, industry or economic trends and developments or public health risks, such as epidemics or pandemics, may, from time to time, and for varying periods of time, cause the Fund to experience volatility, illiquidity, shareholder redemptions, or other potentially adverse effects.
- **Risk Related to Investing for Dividend Income.** There is no guarantee that the issuers of the stocks held by the Fund will declare dividends in the future or that, if dividends are declared, they will remain at their current levels or increase over time. Because a dividend is always a positive contributor to

total return, dividend-paying stocks are typically less volatile than non-dividend-paying stocks. Accordingly, the Fund's performance may lag behind the general market when dividend-paying stocks are out of favor.

- **Risk of Foreign Investing.** Because the Fund invests in securities issued by foreign companies and national governments, the Fund's Share price may be more affected by foreign economic and political conditions, taxation policies and accounting and auditing standards than would otherwise be the case.
- **Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts and Domestically Traded Securities of Foreign Issuers.** Because the Fund may invest in American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) and other domestically traded securities of foreign companies, whether in the United States or in foreign local markets, 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.
- **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 to make intended securities purchases due to settlement problems could cause the Fund to miss attractive investment opportunities.
- **Currency Risk.** Exchange rates for currencies fluctuate daily. Accordingly, the Fund may experience volatility with respect to the value of its Shares and its returns as a result of its exposure to foreign currencies through direct holdings of such currencies or holdings in 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.
- **Liquidity Risk.** The equity securities in which the Fund invests may be less readily marketable and may be subject to greater fluctuation in price than other securities.
- **Real Estate Investment Trust Risk.** Real estate investment trusts (REITs) carry risks associated with owning real estate, including the potential for a decline in value due to economic or market conditions.
- **Risk of Investing in Derivative Contracts.** Derivative contracts involve risks different from, or possibly greater than, risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. Specific risk issues related to the use of such contracts include valuation and tax issues, increased potential for losses and/or costs to the Fund, and a potential

reduction in gains to the Fund. Each of these issues is described in greater detail in this Prospectus. Derivative contracts may also involve other risks described in this Prospectus, such as stock market, currency and liquidity risks.

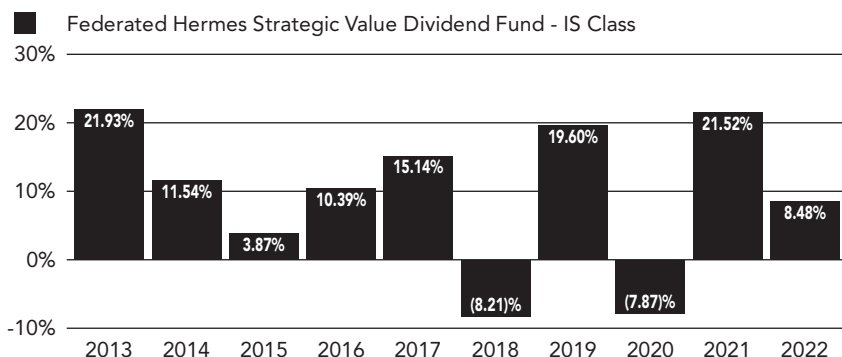
- **Technology Risk.** The Adviser uses various technologies in managing the Fund, consistent with its investment objective(s) and strategy described in this Prospectus. For example, proprietary and third party data and systems are utilized to support decision making for the Fund. Data imprecision, software 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 IS class 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](https://www.FederatedHermes.com/us) or by calling 1-800-341-7400.



The Fund’s IS class total return for the nine-month period from January 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023, was (9.60)%.

Within the periods shown in the bar chart, the Fund's IS class highest quarterly return was 14.83% (quarter ended December 31, 2022). Its lowest quarterly return was (23.75)% (quarter ended March 31, 2020).

## Average Annual Total Return Table

The Fund's R6 class commenced operations on June 29, 2016. For the periods prior to the commencement of operations of the Fund's R6 class, the performance information shown below is for the Fund's IS class adjusted to remove any voluntary waiver of Fund expenses related to the Fund's IS class that may have occurred during the periods prior to the commencement of operations of the Fund's R6 class. In addition to Return Before Taxes, Return After Taxes is shown for the Fund's IS class to illustrate the effect of federal taxes on Fund returns. After-tax returns are shown only for the Fund's IS class, and after-tax returns for A and C classes will differ from those shown for the Fund's IS class. Actual after-tax returns depend on each investor's personal tax situation, and are likely to differ from those shown. After-tax returns are calculated using a standard set of assumptions. The stated returns assume the highest historical federal income and capital gains tax rates. These after-tax returns do not reflect the effect of any applicable state and local taxes. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors holding Shares through a 401(k) plan, an Individual Retirement Account and other tax-advantage investment plans.

(For the Period Ended December 31, 2022)

Share Class	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
<b>A:</b>			
Return Before Taxes	2.16%	4.46%	8.22%
<b>C:</b>			
Return Before Taxes	6.28%	4.85%	8.20%
<b>IS:</b>			
Return Before Taxes	8.48%	5.92%	9.12%
Return After Taxes on Distributions	6.13%	4.07%	7.21%
Return After Taxes on Distributions and Sale of Fund Shares	6.67%	4.26%	6.98%
<b>R6:</b>			
Return Before Taxes	8.50%	5.94%	9.09%
<b>Standard &amp; Poor's 500 Index<sup>1</sup></b> (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	(18.11)%	9.43%	12.56%

1 The Standard & Poor's 500 Index is a capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks designed to measure performance of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.

## FUND MANAGEMENT

The Fund's Investment Adviser is Federated Equity Management Company of Pennsylvania.

Daniel Peris, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since October of 2006.



Deborah D. Bickerstaff, Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since December of 2013.

Jared S. Hoff, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since December of 2019.

Michael R. Tucker, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since December of 2019.

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

You may purchase, redeem or exchange Shares of the Fund on any day the New York Stock Exchange is open. Shares may be purchased through a financial intermediary firm that has entered into a Fund selling and/or servicing agreement with the Distributor or an affiliate ("Financial Intermediary") or directly from the Fund, by wire or by check. Please note that certain purchase restrictions may apply. Redeem or exchange Shares through a financial intermediary or directly from the Fund by telephone at 1-800-341-7400 or by mail.

### **A & C Classes**

The minimum investment amount for the Fund's A and C classes is generally \$1,500 for initial investments and \$100 for subsequent investments. The minimum initial and subsequent investment amounts for Individual Retirement Accounts are generally \$250 and \$100, respectively. There is no minimum initial or subsequent investment amount for employer-sponsored retirement plans. Certain types of accounts are eligible for lower minimum investments. The minimum investment amount for Systematic Investment Programs is \$50.

### **IS Class**

The minimum initial investment amount for the Fund's IS class is generally \$1,000,000 and there is no minimum subsequent investment amount. Certain types of accounts are eligible for lower minimum investments. The minimum investment amount for Systematic Investment Programs is \$50.

### **R6 Class**

There are no minimum initial or subsequent investment amounts required. The minimum investment amount for Systematic Investment Programs is \$50.

## **TAX INFORMATION**

### **A, C & IS Classes**

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.

### **R6 Class**

The Fund's distributions are taxable as ordinary income or capital gains except when your investment is through a tax-advantaged investment plan.

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

### **A, C & IS Classes**

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

### **R6 Class**

Class R6 Shares do not make any payments to financial intermediaries, either from Fund assets or from the investment adviser and its affiliates.

# Notes



Federated Hermes Strategic Value Dividend Fund  
Federated Hermes Funds  
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Warrendale, PA 15086-7561

Contact us at [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://www.federatedhermes.com/us)  
or call 1-800-341-7400.

Federated Securities Corp., Distributor

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