

## Prospectus Supplement

**John Hancock Funds II (the Trust)  
Absolute Return Opportunities Fund (the fund)**

**Supplement dated September 23, 2021 to the current Prospectus, as may be supplemented (the Prospectus)**

At its meeting held on September 21-23, 2021, the Board of Trustees of the Trust (the Board) approved the closing and liquidation of the fund pursuant to a Plan of Liquidation approved by the Board. The Board determined that continuation of the fund is not in the best interests of the fund or its shareholders as a result of factors or events adversely affecting the fund's ability to conduct its business and operations in an economically viable manner. The fund generally will not accept orders to purchase shares of the fund beginning on or about September 23, 2021 except at the fund's sole discretion; however, certain accounts affiliated with the fund's advisor may continue to purchase shares of the fund after that date. On or about October 29, 2021 (the Liquidation Date), the fund will distribute pro rata all of its assets to its shareholders, and all outstanding shares will be redeemed and cancelled as of the close of business on the Liquidation Date.

In addition, effective immediately, Andrew Graham and Mark Holden, CFA, no longer serve as portfolio managers of the fund. Accordingly, all references to Mr. Graham and Mr. Holden are removed from the Prospectus.

Christopher Fellingham, David J. Rule, CFA, FRM, Nathan W. Thooft, CFA, and Christopher Walsh, CFA, will continue as portfolio managers of the fund and will be jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund's portfolio.

*You should read this supplement in conjunction with the Prospectus and retain it for your future reference.*

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# John Hancock Absolute Return Opportunities Fund

(formerly Diversified Strategies Fund)

Prospectus June 1, 2021

Class NAV

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*John Hancock*<sup>®</sup> Investment Management

As with all mutual funds, the Securities and Exchange Commission and Commodity Futures Trading Commission have not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

# Table of contents

## Fund summary

The summary section is a concise look at the investment objective, fees and expenses, principal investment strategies, principal risks, past performance, and investment management.

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### **1** John Hancock Absolute Return Opportunities Fund

## Fund details

More about topics covered in the summary section, including descriptions of the investment strategies and various risk factors that investors should understand before investing.

- 
- 6** Principal investment strategies
  - 6** Principal risks of investing
  - 15** Who's who
  - 18** Financial highlights

## Your account

How to place an order to buy, sell, or exchange shares, as well as information about the business policies and any distributions that may be paid.

- 
- 19** Who can buy shares
  - 19** Class cost structure
  - 19** Opening an account
  - 19** Transaction policies
  - 22** Dividends and account policies
  - 22** Additional investor services

For more information *See back cover*

# John Hancock Absolute Return Opportunities Fund

## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The fund seeks to achieve an absolute return.

## FEES AND EXPENSES

This table describes the fees and expenses 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.

<b>Shareholder fees (%) (fees paid directly from your investment)</b>	<b>NAV</b>
Maximum front-end sales charge (load)	None
Maximum deferred sales charge (load)	None
<b>Annual fund operating expenses (%) (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)</b>	<b>NAV</b>
Management fee	1.00
Other expenses <sup>1</sup>	1.53
Acquired fund fees and expenses <sup>2</sup>	0.04
<b>Total annual fund operating expenses<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>2.57</b>
Contractual expense reimbursement <sup>4</sup>	-0.01
<b>Total annual fund operating expenses after expense reimbursements</b>	<b>2.56</b>

- <sup>1</sup> "Other expenses," such as expected transfer agency expenses, have been estimated for the first year of operations of the fund's Class NAV shares.
- <sup>2</sup> "Acquired fund fees and expenses" are based on indirect net expenses associated with the fund's investments in underlying investment companies.
- <sup>3</sup> The "Total annual fund operating expenses" shown may not correlate to the fund's ratios of expenses to average daily net assets shown in the "Financial highlights" section of the fund's prospectus, which does not include "Acquired fund fees and expenses."
- <sup>4</sup> The advisor contractually agrees to waive a portion of its management fee and/or reimburse expenses for the fund and certain other John Hancock funds according to an asset level breakpoint schedule that is based on the aggregate net assets of all the funds participating in the waiver or reimbursement. This waiver is allocated proportionally among the participating funds. During its most recent fiscal year, the fund's reimbursement amounted to 0.01% of the fund's average daily net assets. This agreement expires on July 31, 2022, unless renewed by mutual agreement of the fund and the advisor based upon a determination that this is appropriate under the circumstances at that time.

## EXPENSE 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. Please see below a hypothetical example showing the expenses of a \$10,000 investment for the time periods indicated and then assuming you sell all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example assumes a 5% average annual return and that fund expenses will not change over the periods. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

<b>Expenses (\$)</b>	<b>NAV</b>
1 year	259
3 years	799
5 years	1,364
10 years	2,904

## 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 its most recent fiscal year, the fund's portfolio turnover rate was 542% of the average value of its portfolio.

## PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

The fund seeks to achieve an absolute return by investing in a wide spectrum of U.S. and foreign equity and fixed-income securities, as well as derivative instruments. Under normal market conditions, the fund invests both in securities directly and in shares of unaffiliated underlying investment funds, including exchange-traded funds (ETFs), that invest in a wide range of asset classes. The fund may invest in companies with any market capitalization. The fund's fixed-income investments are not subject to any credit rating or maturity limitations and may be issued by companies and government and supranational entities around the world, including high-yield, below-investment-grade securities (junk bonds). The fund may invest in emerging as well as developed markets and may invest a significant portion of its assets in the securities of companies in particular economic sectors. The manager may allocate assets based on various asset classes, sectors, duration, credit quality, or geographic mix and may reallocate assets based on its ongoing analyses of capital markets. The fund may also invest in a broad range of additional securities, including global preferred securities, bank loans, convertible securities, and other fixed-income securities. Some loans may be illiquid.

The fund also may invest extensively in derivative instruments to hedge against market losses or rate changes or for non-hedging purposes, including to invest indirectly in securities or financial markets, to gain foreign currency exposure, to manage efficiently, or to generate additional income. Derivatives may include futures, options, swaps, and swaptions and may relate to equity securities, fixed-income securities, interest rates, inflation rates, total return rates, currencies or currency exchange rates, and related indexes. The fund also may invest in restricted or illiquid securities.

Due to the fund's use of derivative instruments, a significant portion of the fund's assets will be invested directly or indirectly in cash and cash equivalents and money market instruments, which may include U.S. Government securities, U.S. Government agency securities, overnight and/or fixed term repurchase agreements, and money market mutual fund shares for use as margin or collateral for these derivative instruments. Such investments may generate income for the fund.

The fund may invest in unaffiliated investment companies, including ETFs, that focus their investments on alternative or non-traditional asset categories such as commodities, market neutral (long/short), global real estate, natural resources, TIPS (Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities), foreign currency trading strategies, managed futures, arbitrage strategies, and tactical, shorter-term investment strategies. The fund may also invest in exchange-traded notes (ETNs). The fund may enter into short sales of securities either to realize appreciation if a security that the fund does not own declines in value or as a hedge against potential declines in the value of a fund security.

The fund and/or the unaffiliated underlying funds in which it invests may trade securities actively.

## PRINCIPAL RISKS

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An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Many factors affect performance, and fund shares will fluctuate in price, meaning you could lose money. In addition, although the manager aims to achieve an absolute return, there is no guarantee that the fund will generate positive returns. The fund's investment strategy may not produce the intended results.

During periods of heightened market volatility or reduced liquidity, governments, their agencies, or other regulatory bodies, both within the United States and abroad, may take steps to intervene. These actions, which could include legislative, regulatory, or economic initiatives, might have unforeseeable consequences and could adversely affect the fund's performance or otherwise constrain the fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

The fund's main risks are listed below in alphabetical order, not in order of importance. *Before investing, be sure to read the additional descriptions of these risks beginning on page 6 of the prospectus.*

**Asset allocation risk.** Although allocation among asset categories generally limits exposure to any one category, the management team may favor a category that performs poorly relative to the others.

**Cash and cash equivalents risk.** Under certain market conditions, such as during a rising stock market, rising interest rate or rising credit spread markets, the use of cash and/or cash equivalents, including money market instruments, could have a negative effect on the fund's ability to achieve its investment objective and may negatively impact the fund's performance.

**Changing distribution levels risk.** The fund may cease or reduce the level of its distribution if income or dividends paid from its investments declines.

**Commodity risk.** Commodity prices may be volatile due to fluctuating demand, supply disruption, speculation, and other factors. Certain commodity investments may have no active trading market at times.

**Credit and counterparty risk.** The issuer or guarantor of a fixed-income security, the counterparty to an over-the-counter derivatives contract, or a borrower of fund securities may not make timely payments or otherwise honor its obligations. U.S. government securities are subject to varying degrees of credit risk depending upon the nature of their support. A downgrade or default affecting any of the fund's securities could affect the fund's performance.

**Cybersecurity and operational risk.** Cybersecurity breaches may allow an unauthorized party to gain access to fund assets, customer data, or proprietary information, or cause a fund or its service providers to suffer data corruption or lose operational functionality. Similar incidents affecting issuers of a fund's securities may negatively impact performance. Operational risk may arise from human error, error by third parties, communication errors, or technology failures, among other causes.

**Economic and market events risk.** Events in the U.S. and global financial markets, including actions taken by the U.S. Federal Reserve or foreign central banks to stimulate or stabilize economic growth, may at times result in unusually high market volatility, which could negatively impact performance. Reduced liquidity in credit and fixed-income markets could adversely affect issuers worldwide. Banks and financial services companies could suffer losses if interest rates rise or economic conditions deteriorate.

**Equity securities risk.** The price of equity securities may decline due to changes in a company's financial condition or overall market conditions.

**Exchange-traded funds (ETFs) risk.** The risks of owning shares of an ETF include the risks of owning the underlying securities the ETF holds. Lack of liquidity in an ETF could result in the ETF being more volatile than its underlying securities. An ETF's shares could trade at a significant premium or discount to its NAV. A fund bears ETF fees and expenses indirectly.

**Exchange-traded notes (ETNs) risk.** An ETN generally reflects the risks associated with the assets composing the underlying market benchmark or strategy it is designed to track. ETNs also are subject to issuer and fixed-income risks.

**Fixed-income securities risk.** A rise in interest rates typically causes bond prices to fall. The longer the average maturity or duration of the bonds held by a fund, the more sensitive it will likely be to interest-rate fluctuations. An issuer may not make all interest payments or repay all or any of the principal borrowed. Changes in a security's credit quality may adversely affect fund performance.

**Foreign securities risk.** Less information may be publicly available regarding foreign issuers. Foreign securities may be subject to foreign taxes and may be more volatile than U.S. securities. Currency fluctuations and political and economic developments may adversely impact the value of foreign securities. The risks of investing in foreign securities are magnified in emerging markets.

**Fund of funds risk.** The fund is subject to the performance and expenses of the unaffiliated underlying funds in which it invests.

**Hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions risk.** Hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions may increase a fund's volatility and could produce disproportionate losses, potentially more than the fund's principal investment. Risks of these transactions are different from and possibly greater than risks of investing directly in securities and other traditional instruments. Under certain market conditions, derivatives could become harder to value or sell and may become subject to liquidity risk (i.e., the inability to enter into closed transactions). Derivatives and other strategic transactions that the fund intends to utilize include: foreign currency forward contracts, futures contracts, options, swaps, and swaptions. Futures contracts, options, and swaps generally are subject to counterparty risk. In addition, swaps may be subject to interest-rate and settlement risk, and the risk of default of the underlying reference obligation.

**High portfolio turnover risk.** Trading securities actively and frequently can increase transaction costs (thus lowering performance) and taxable distributions.

**Illiquid and restricted securities risk.** Illiquid and restricted securities may be difficult to value and may involve greater risks than liquid securities. Illiquidity may have an adverse impact on a particular security's market price and the fund's ability to sell the security.

**Inflation-protected securities risk.** Increases in real interest rates generally cause the price of inflation-protected debt securities to decrease.

**Investment company securities risk.** Underlying fund fees and expenses associated with investments in other investment companies are borne by fund shareholders.

**Large company risk.** Larger companies may grow more slowly than smaller companies or be slower to respond to business developments. Large-capitalization securities may underperform the market as a whole.

**Liquidity risk.** The extent (if at all) to which a security may be sold or a derivative position closed without negatively impacting its market value may be impaired by reduced market activity or participation, legal restrictions, or other economic and market impediments. Liquidity risk may be magnified in rising interest rate environments due to higher than normal redemption rates. Widespread selling of fixed-income securities to satisfy redemptions during periods of reduced demand may adversely impact the price or salability of such securities. Periods of heavy redemption could cause the fund to sell assets at a loss or depressed value, which could negatively affect performance. Redemption risk is heightened during periods of declining or illiquid markets.

**Lower-rated and high-yield fixed-income securities risk.** Lower-rated and high-yield fixed-income securities (junk bonds) are subject to greater credit quality risk, risk of default, and price volatility than higher-rated fixed-income securities, may be considered speculative, and can be difficult to resell.

**Natural resources industry risk.** The natural resources industry can be significantly affected by international political and economic developments, energy conservation and exploration efforts, natural disasters or other extreme weather conditions, commodity prices, and taxes and other governmental regulations, among other factors.

**Preferred and convertible securities risk.** Preferred stock dividends are payable only if declared by the issuer's board. Preferred stock may be subject to redemption provisions. The market values of convertible securities tend to fall as interest rates rise and rise as interest rates fall. Convertible preferred stock's value can depend heavily upon the underlying common stock's value.

**Real estate securities risk.** Securities of companies in the real estate industry carry risks associated with owning real estate, including the potential for a decline in value due to economic or market conditions.

**Sector risk.** When a fund focuses its investments in certain sectors of the economy, its performance may be driven largely by sector performance and could fluctuate more widely than if the fund were invested more evenly across sectors.

**Short sales risk.** In a short sale, a fund pays interest on a borrowed security. The fund will lose money if the price of the borrowed security increases between the short sale and the replacement date.

**Small and mid-sized company risk.** Small and mid-sized companies are generally less established and may be more volatile than larger companies. Small and/or mid-capitalization securities may underperform the market as a whole.

## PAST PERFORMANCE

The following information illustrates the variability of the fund's returns and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the fund by showing changes in the fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the fund's average annual returns compared with a broad-based market index. Past performance (before and after taxes) does not indicate future results. All figures assume dividend reinvestment. Performance information is updated daily, monthly, and quarterly and may be obtained at our website, [jhinvestments.com](http://jhinvestments.com), or by calling 800-344-1029 between 8:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M., Eastern time, on most business days.

## A note on performance

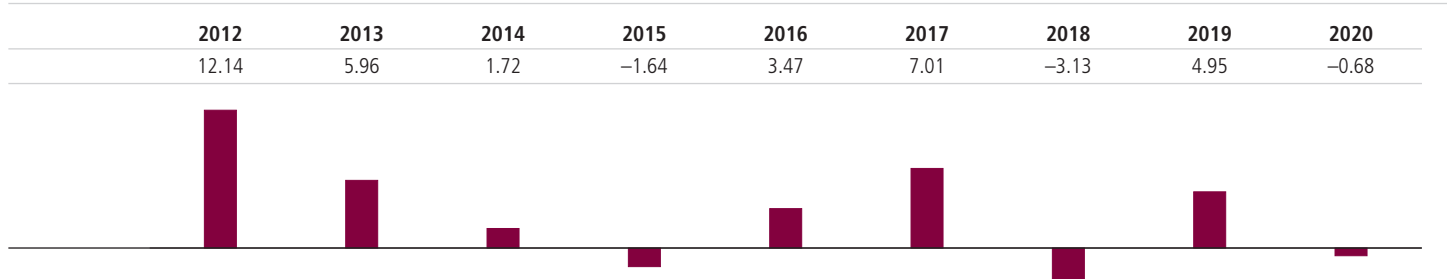
Effective June 1, 2021, the fund changed its principal investment strategy to seek an absolute return by investing in a wide spectrum of U.S. and foreign equity and fixed-income securities, as well as derivative instruments. The performance information presented for periods prior to June 1, 2021 reflects management of the fund consistent with investment strategies in effect during those periods and might have been different if the fund's investments had been managed under its current investment objective and strategies.

Effective July 1, 2013, the fund changed its principal investment strategy to seek long-term total return by primarily investing directly in equity and fixed-income securities, as well as derivative instruments. The performance information presented for periods prior to July 1, 2013 reflects management of the fund consistent with investment strategies in effect during those periods and might have been different if the fund's investments had been managed under its current investment objective and strategies.

Class A shares commenced operations on September 30, 2011. Because Class NAV shares of the fund had not commenced operations as of the date of this prospectus, the returns shown are those of Class A shares, except that they do not include sales charges and would be lower if they did. Returns for Class NAV shares would have been substantially similar to returns of Class A shares because each share class is invested in the same portfolio of securities and returns would differ only to the extent that expenses of the classes are different. To the extent expenses of a class would have been higher than expenses of Class A shares for the periods shown, performance would have been lower.

Please note that after-tax returns reflect the highest individual federal marginal income-tax rate in effect as of the date provided and do not reflect any state or local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns may be different. After-tax returns are not relevant to shares held in an IRA, 401(k), or other tax-advantaged investment plan.

### Calendar year total returns (%)—Class A (sales charges are not reflected in the bar chart and returns would have been lower if they were)



**Year-to-date total return.** The fund's total return for the three months ended March 31, 2021, was 0.25%.

**Best quarter:** Q1 2012, 4.41%

**Worst quarter:** Q3 2015, -4.15%

### Average annual total returns (%)—as of 12/31/20

	1 year	5 year	Since inception (09/30/11)
<b>Class NAV</b> (before tax)	-0.68	2.26	3.48
after tax on distributions	-1.10	0.54	1.67
after tax on distributions, with sale	-0.19	1.45	2.23
ICE Bank of America 0-3 Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses, or taxes)	0.54	1.13	0.63
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses, or taxes)*	7.51	4.44	3.45

\* Prior to June 1, 2021, the fund's primary benchmark was the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index. Effective June 1, 2021, the fund's primary benchmark index is the ICE BofA 0-3 month US Treasury Index. The ICE BofA 0-3 month US Treasury Index is better aligned with the fund's investment strategy.

## INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

**Investment advisor** John Hancock Investment Management LLC

**Subadvisor** Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC

## PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

### Christopher Fellingham

Senior Managing Director and  
Head of Liquid Alternative Strategies  
Managed the fund since 2018

### Andrew Graham

Senior Managing Director and  
Senior Portfolio Manager  
Managed the fund since 2018

### Mark Holden, CFA

Managing Director and Portfolio Manager  
Managed the fund since 2018



**David J. Rule, CFA, FRM**

*Managing Director and Portfolio Manager*  
Managed the fund since 2021

**Nathan W. Thooft, CFA**

*Vice President, Senior Managing Director,  
Co-Head Portfolio Solutions Group North  
America*  
Managed the fund since 2015

**Christopher Walsh, CFA**

*Managing Director and Portfolio Manager*  
Managed the fund since 2018

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**PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

There are no minimum initial or subsequent investment requirements for Class NAV shares. Shares may be redeemed on any business day on instruction to the fund.

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**TAXES**

The fund's distributions are taxable, and will be taxed as ordinary income and/or capital gains, unless you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or individual retirement account. Withdrawals from such tax-deferred arrangements may be subject to tax at a later date.

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

If you purchase the fund through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank, registered investment advisor, financial planner, or retirement plan administrator), the fund and its related companies may pay the broker-dealer or other 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.



### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

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**Investment objective:** The fund seeks to achieve an absolute return.

The Board of Trustees can change the fund's investment objective and strategies without shareholder approval.

The fund seeks to achieve an absolute return through a broad investment mandate that permits it to use an extensive range of investment strategies and to invest in a wide spectrum of equity and fixed-income securities, as well as derivative instruments. Under normal market conditions, the fund invests directly in both fixed-income and equity securities and also in shares of unaffiliated underlying investment funds, including exchange-traded funds (ETFs), that invest in a wide range of asset classes.

The fund invests in equity securities of U.S. and foreign companies of various market capitalizations. The fund also invests in fixed-income securities, which are not subject to any credit rating or maturity limitations, issued by companies and government and supranational entities around the world, including high-yield below-investment-grade securities (i.e., junk bonds). The fund may invest in emerging as well as developed markets and may invest a significant portion of its assets in the securities of companies in particular economic sectors. In pursuing its investment objective, the fund has the ability to allocate between various asset classes, sectors, duration, credit quality or geographic mix and the manager has the flexibility to reallocate the fund's assets among any or all of the asset class exposures based on its ongoing analyses of the capital markets. The fund may also invest in a broad range of additional securities, including global preferred securities, bank loans, convertibles and other fixed-income securities. Direct investments in loans may be illiquid and holding a loan could expose the fund to the risks of being a direct lender.

The fund also may invest extensively in derivative instruments, such as futures, options, swaps, and swaptions, which are generally financial contracts whose value is derived from an underlying asset, reference rate, or index, and may relate to equity securities, fixed-income securities, interest rates, inflation rates, total return rates, currencies or currency exchange rates, and related indexes. Derivatives may be used to hedge against losses from movements in stocks, currency exchange rates or interest rates. Derivatives may be used for non-hedging purposes in order to invest indirectly in securities or financial markets, for duration management, to gain exposure to foreign currencies, for efficient portfolio management, or to generate additional income for the fund's portfolio. The fund also may invest in restricted or illiquid securities.

Due to the fund's use of derivative instruments, a significant portion of the fund's assets will be invested directly or indirectly in cash and cash equivalents and money market instruments, which may include U.S. Government securities, U.S. Government agency securities, overnight and/or fixed term repurchase agreements, and money market mutual fund shares for use as margin or collateral for these derivative instruments. Such investments may generate income for the fund.

In addition, the fund may invest directly in, or indirectly through exchange-traded notes (ETNs) and unaffiliated investment companies, including ETFs, that focus their investment strategies on, alternative or non-traditional asset categories such as commodities, market neutral (long/short), global real estate, natural resources, TIPS (Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities), foreign currency trading strategies, managed futures, arbitrage strategies and tactical, shorter-term investment strategies. The fund may also enter into short sales of

securities either to realize appreciation when a security that the fund does not own declines in value or as a hedge against potential declines in the value of a fund security.

The fund and/or the unaffiliated underlying funds in which it invests may trade securities actively, which could result in a higher-than-average portfolio turnover rate and increase their transaction costs (thus lowering performance).

The fund may invest in cash or money market instruments for the purpose of meeting redemption requests or making other anticipated cash payments.

The fund may deviate from its principal investment strategies during transition periods, which may include the reassignment of portfolio management, a change in investment objective or strategy, a reorganization or liquidation, or the occurrence of large inflows or outflows.

#### Temporary defensive investing

The fund may invest up to 100% of its assets in cash, money market instruments, or other investment-grade short-term securities, for the purpose of protecting the fund in the event the manager determines that market, economic, political, or other conditions warrant a defensive posture.

To the extent that the fund is in a defensive position, its ability to achieve its investment objective will be limited.

#### Securities lending

The fund may also enter into securities lending, repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions to generate additional income and/or as a short-term cash management tool.

The fund may lend its securities so long as such loans do not represent more than 33⅓% of the fund's total assets. The borrower will provide collateral to the lending portfolio so that the value of the loaned security will be fully collateralized. The collateral may consist of cash, cash equivalents, or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government or its agencies or instrumentalities. The borrower must also agree to increase the collateral if the value of the loaned securities increases. As with other extensions of credit, there are risks of delay in recovery or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially.

### PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING

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An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Although the manager aims to achieve an absolute return, there is no guarantee that the fund will generate positive returns. The fund's shares will go up and down in price, meaning that you could lose money by investing in the fund. Many factors influence a fund's performance. The fund's investment strategy may not produce the intended results.

Instability in the financial markets has led many governments, including the U.S. government, to take a number of unprecedented actions designed to support certain financial institutions and segments of the financial markets that have experienced extreme volatility and, in some cases, a lack of liquidity. Federal, state, and other governments, and their regulatory agencies or self-regulatory organizations, may take actions that affect the regulation of the instruments in which the fund invests, or the issuers of such instruments, in ways that are unforeseeable. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the fund itself is regulated. Such legislation or regulation could limit or preclude the fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. In addition,

political events within the United States and abroad could negatively impact financial markets and the fund's performance. Further, certain municipalities of the United States and its territories are financially strained and may face the possibility of default on their debt obligations, which could directly or indirectly detract from the fund's performance.

Governments or their agencies may also acquire distressed assets from financial institutions and acquire ownership interests in those institutions. The implications of government ownership and disposition of these assets are unclear, and such a program may have positive or negative effects on the liquidity, valuation, and performance of the fund's portfolio holdings. Furthermore, volatile financial markets can expose the fund to greater market and liquidity risk, increased transaction costs, and potential difficulty in valuing portfolio instruments held by the fund.

The principal risks of investing in the fund are summarized in its fund summary above. Below are descriptions of the main factors that may play a role in shaping the fund's overall risk profile. The descriptions appear in alphabetical order, not in order of importance. For further details about fund risks, including additional risk factors that are not discussed in this prospectus because they are not considered primary factors, see the fund's Statement of Additional Information (SAI).

#### **Asset allocation risk**

Although asset allocation among different asset categories generally limits risk and exposure to any one category, the risk remains that the subadvisor may favor an asset category that performs poorly relative to the other asset categories. To the extent that alternative asset categories underperform the general stock market, the fund would perform poorly relative to a fund invested primarily in the general stock market.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents risk**

Under certain market conditions, such as during a rising stock market, rising interest rate or rising credit spread markets, the use of cash and/or cash equivalents, including money market instruments, could have a negative effect on the fund's ability to achieve its investment objective and may negatively impact the fund's performance. To the extent that the fund invests in a money market fund, the fund will indirectly bear a proportionate share of the money market fund's expenses, in addition to the operating expenses of the fund, which are borne directly by fund shareholders. In addition, while money market funds seek to maintain a stable net asset value, the value of a money market fund is not guaranteed and investors in money market funds can lose money, which could detract from the fund's performance.

#### **Changing distribution levels risk**

The distribution amounts paid by the fund generally depend on the amount of income and/or dividends paid by the fund's investments. As a result of market, interest rate and other circumstances, the amount of cash available for distribution by the fund and the fund's distribution rate may vary or decline. The risk of such variability is accentuated in currently prevailing market and interest rate circumstances.

#### **Commodity risk**

The market price of commodity investments may be volatile due to fluctuating demand, supply disruption, speculation, and other factors. Certain commodity investments may have no active trading market at times. The value of commodities investments will generally be affected by overall market

movements and factors specific to a particular industry or commodity, which may include weather, embargoes, tariffs, and health, political, international and regulatory developments. Economic and other events (whether real or perceived) can reduce the demand for commodities, which may reduce market prices and cause the value of shares of the fund to fall. Exposure to commodities and commodities markets may subject the fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. Certain types of commodities instruments (such as total return swaps and commodity-linked notes) are subject to the risk that the counterparty to the instrument will not perform or will be unable to perform in accordance with the terms of the instrument.

Commodities markets generally, and the energy sector specifically, have been adversely impacted by the reduced demand for oil and other commodities as a result of the slowdown in economic activity resulting from the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Recently, global oil prices have declined significantly and experienced significant volatility, including a period where an oil-price futures contract fell into negative territory for the first time in history, as demand for oil has slowed and oil storage facilities reach their storage capacities. The impact on such commodities markets may last for an extended period of time.

#### **Credit and counterparty risk**

This is the risk that an issuer of a U.S. government security, the issuer or guarantor of a fixed-income security, the counterparty to an over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives contract (see "Hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions risk"), or a borrower of a fund's securities will be unable or unwilling to make timely principal, interest, or settlement payments, or otherwise honor its obligations. Credit risk associated with investments in fixed-income securities relates to the ability of the issuer to make scheduled payments of principal and interest on an obligation. A fund that invests in fixed-income securities is subject to varying degrees of risk that the issuers of the securities will have their credit ratings downgraded or will default, potentially reducing the fund's share price and income level. Nearly all fixed-income securities are subject to some credit risk, which may vary depending upon whether the issuers of the securities are corporations, domestic or foreign governments, or their subdivisions or instrumentalities. U.S. government securities are subject to varying degrees of credit risk depending upon whether the securities are supported by the full faith and credit of the United States; supported by the ability to borrow from the U.S. Treasury; supported only by the credit of the issuing U.S. government agency, instrumentality, or corporation; or otherwise supported by the United States. For example, issuers of many types of U.S. government securities (e.g., the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac), Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae), and Federal Home Loan Banks), although chartered or sponsored by Congress, are not funded by congressional appropriations, and their fixed-income securities, including asset-backed and mortgage-backed securities, are neither guaranteed nor insured by the U.S. government. An agency of the U.S. government has placed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac into conservatorship, a statutory process with the objective of returning the entities to normal business operations. It is unclear what effect this conservatorship will have on the securities issued or guaranteed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. As a result, these securities are subject to more credit risk than U.S. government securities that are supported by the full faith and credit of the United States (e.g., U.S. Treasury bonds). When a fixed-income security is not rated, a manager may have to assess the risk of the security itself. Asset-backed securities, whose principal and interest payments are supported

by pools of other assets, such as credit card receivables and automobile loans, are subject to further risks, including the risk that the obligors of the underlying assets default on payment of those assets.

Funds that invest in below-investment-grade securities, also called junk bonds (e.g., fixed-income securities rated Ba or lower by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. or BB or lower by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services or Fitch Ratings, as applicable, at the time of investment, or determined by a manager to be of comparable quality to securities so rated) are subject to increased credit risk. The sovereign debt of many foreign governments, including their subdivisions and instrumentalities, falls into this category. Below-investment-grade securities offer the potential for higher investment returns than higher-rated securities, but they carry greater credit risk: their issuers' continuing ability to meet principal and interest payments is considered speculative, they are more susceptible to real or perceived adverse economic and competitive industry conditions, and they may be less liquid than higher-rated securities.

In addition, a fund is exposed to credit risk to the extent that it makes use of OTC derivatives (such as forward foreign currency contracts and/or swap contracts) and engages to a significant extent in the lending of fund securities or the use of repurchase agreements. OTC derivatives transactions can be closed out with the other party to the transaction. If the counterparty defaults, a fund will have contractual remedies, but there is no assurance that the counterparty will be able to meet its contractual obligations or that, in the event of default, a fund will succeed in enforcing them. A fund, therefore, assumes the risk that it may be unable to obtain payments owed to it under OTC derivatives contracts or that those payments may be delayed or made only after the fund has incurred the costs of litigation. While the manager intends to monitor the creditworthiness of contract counterparties, there can be no assurance that the counterparty will be in a position to meet its obligations, especially during unusually adverse market conditions.

### **Cybersecurity and operational risk**

Intentional cybersecurity breaches include unauthorized access to systems, networks, or devices (such as through "hacking" activity); infection from computer viruses or other malicious software code; and attacks that shut down, disable, slow, or otherwise disrupt operations, business processes, or website access or functionality. In addition, unintentional incidents can occur, such as the inadvertent release of confidential information (possibly resulting in the violation of applicable privacy laws).

A cybersecurity breach could result in the loss or theft of customer data or funds, the inability to access electronic systems ("denial of services"), loss or theft of proprietary information or corporate data, physical damage to a computer or network system, or costs associated with system repairs. Such incidents could cause a fund, the advisor, a manager, or other service providers to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs, litigation costs or financial loss. In addition, such incidents could affect issuers in which a fund invests, and thereby cause the fund's investments to lose value.

Cyber-events have the potential to materially affect the fund and the advisor's relationships with accounts, shareholders, clients, customers, employees, products, and service providers. The fund has established risk management systems reasonably designed to seek to reduce the risks associated with cyber-events. There is no guarantee that the fund will be able to prevent or mitigate the impact of any or all cyber-events.

The fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the fund's service providers, counterparties, or other third parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures.

In addition, other disruptive events, including (but not limited to) natural disasters and public health crises (such as the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic), may adversely affect the fund's ability to conduct business, in particular if the fund's employees or the employees of its service providers are unable or unwilling to perform their responsibilities as a result of any such event. Even if the fund's employees and the employees of its service providers are able to work remotely, those remote work arrangements could result in the fund's business operations being less efficient than under normal circumstances, could lead to delays in its processing of transactions, and could increase the risk of cyber-events.

### **Economic and market events risk**

Events in certain sectors historically have resulted, and may in the future result, in an unusually high degree of volatility in the financial markets, both domestic and foreign. These events have included, but are not limited to: bankruptcies, corporate restructurings, and other similar events; governmental efforts to limit short selling and high frequency trading; measures to address U.S. federal and state budget deficits; social, political, and economic instability in Europe; economic stimulus by the Japanese central bank; dramatic changes in energy prices and currency exchange rates; and China's economic slowdown. Interconnected global economies and financial markets increase the possibility that conditions in one country or region might adversely impact issuers in a different country or region. Both domestic and foreign equity markets have experienced increased volatility and turmoil, with issuers that have exposure to the real estate, mortgage, and credit markets particularly affected. Banks and financial services companies could suffer losses if interest rates rise or economic conditions deteriorate.

In addition, relatively high market volatility and reduced liquidity in credit and fixed-income markets may adversely affect many issuers worldwide. Actions taken by the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) or foreign central banks to stimulate or stabilize economic growth, such as interventions in currency markets, could cause high volatility in the equity and fixed-income markets. Reduced liquidity may result in less money being available to purchase raw materials, goods, and services from emerging markets, which may, in turn, bring down the prices of these economic staples. It may also result in emerging-market issuers having more difficulty obtaining financing, which may, in turn, cause a decline in their securities prices.

In addition, while interest rates have been unusually low in recent years in the United States and abroad, any decision by the Fed to adjust the target fed funds rate, among other factors, could cause markets to experience continuing high volatility. A significant increase in interest rates may cause a decline in the market for equity securities. Also, regulators have expressed concern that rate increases may contribute to price volatility. These events and the possible resulting market volatility may have an adverse effect on the fund.

Political turmoil within the United States and abroad may also impact the fund. Although the U.S. government has honored its credit obligations, it remains possible that the United States could default on its obligations. While it is impossible to predict the consequences of such an unprecedented event, it is likely that a default by the United States would be highly disruptive to the U.S.

and global securities markets and could significantly impair the value of the fund's investments. Similarly, political events within the United States at times have resulted, and may in the future result, in a shutdown of government services, which could negatively affect the U.S. economy, decrease the value of many fund investments, and increase uncertainty in or impair the operation of the U.S. or other securities markets. The U.S. is also renegotiating many of its global trade relationships and has imposed or threatened to impose significant import tariffs. These actions could lead to price volatility and overall declines in U.S. and global investment markets.

Uncertainties surrounding the sovereign debt of a number of European Union (EU) countries and the viability of the EU have disrupted and may in the future disrupt markets in the United States and around the world. If one or more countries leave the EU or the EU dissolves, the world's securities markets likely will be significantly disrupted. On January 31, 2020, the United Kingdom (UK) left the EU, commonly referred to as "Brexit," and the UK ceased to be a member of the EU. Following a transition period during which the EU and the UK Government engaged in a series of negotiations regarding the terms of the UK's future relationship with the EU, the EU and UK Government signed an agreement on December 30, 2020 regarding the economic relationship between the UK and the EU. This agreement became effective on a provisional basis on January 1, 2021. There remains 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 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 that have counterparties in the EU or participate in market infrastructure (trading venues, clearing houses, settlement facilities) based in the EU. Additionally, the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic will stretch the resources and deficits of many countries in the EU and throughout the world, increasing the possibility that countries may be unable to make timely payments on their sovereign debt. These events and the resulting market volatility may have an adverse effect on the performance of the fund.

A widespread health crisis such as a global pandemic could cause substantial market volatility, exchange trading suspensions and closures, which may lead to less liquidity in certain instruments, industries, sectors or the markets generally, and may ultimately affect fund performance. For example, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has resulted in significant disruptions to global business activity. The impact of a health crisis and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the global economy in ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time. A health crisis may exacerbate other pre-existing political, social and economic risks. Any such impact could adversely affect the fund's performance, resulting in losses to your investment.

The United States has responded to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and resulting economic distress with fiscal and monetary stimulus packages. In late March 2020, the government passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, a stimulus package providing for over \$2.2 trillion in resources to small businesses, state and local governments, and

individuals that have been adversely impacted by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. In late December 2020, the government also passed a spending bill that included \$900 billion in stimulus relief for the COVID-19 pandemic. Further, in March 2021, the government passed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, a \$1.9 trillion stimulus bill to accelerate the United States' recovery from the economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, in mid-March 2020 the Fed cut interest rates to historically low levels and promised unlimited and open-ended quantitative easing, including purchases of corporate and municipal government bonds. The Fed also enacted various programs to support liquidity operations and funding in the financial markets, including expanding its reverse repurchase agreement operations, adding \$1.5 trillion of liquidity to the banking system, establishing swap lines with other major central banks to provide dollar funding, establishing a program to support money market funds, easing various bank capital buffers, providing funding backstops for businesses to provide bridging loans for up to four years, and providing funding to help credit flow in asset-backed securities markets. The Fed also plans to extend credit to small- and medium-sized businesses.

Political and military events, including in North Korea, Venezuela, Iran, Syria, and other areas of the Middle East, and nationalist unrest in Europe and South America, also may cause market disruptions.

In addition, there is a risk that the prices of goods and services in the United States and many foreign economies may decline over time, known as deflation. Deflation may have an adverse effect on stock prices and creditworthiness and may make defaults on debt more likely. If a country's economy slips into a deflationary pattern, it could last for a prolonged period and may be difficult to reverse.

### **Equity securities risk**

Common and preferred stocks represent equity ownership in a company. Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities will fluctuate, and can decline and reduce the value of a fund investing in equities. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions. The value of equity securities purchased by a fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies in which the fund is invested declines, or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. An issuer's financial condition could decline as a result of poor management decisions, competitive pressures, technological obsolescence, undue reliance on suppliers, labor issues, shortages, corporate restructurings, fraudulent disclosures, irregular and/or unexpected trading activity among retail investors, or other factors. Changes in the financial condition of a single issuer can impact the market as a whole.

Even a fund that invests in high-quality, or blue chip, equity securities, or securities of established companies with large market capitalizations (which generally have strong financial characteristics), can be negatively impacted by poor overall market and economic conditions. Companies with large market capitalizations may also have less growth potential than smaller companies and may be less able to react quickly to changes in the marketplace.

The fund generally does not attempt to time the market. Because of its exposure to equities, the possibility that stock market prices in general will decline over short or extended periods subjects the fund to unpredictable declines in the value of its investments, as well as periods of poor performance.

### Exchange-traded funds risk

ETFs are a type of investment company bought and sold on a securities exchange. A fund could purchase shares of an ETF to gain exposure to a portion of the U.S. or a foreign market. The risks of owning shares of an ETF include the risks of directly owning the underlying securities and other instruments the ETF holds. A lack of liquidity in an ETF (e.g., absence of an active trading market) could result in the ETF being more volatile than its underlying securities. The existence of extreme market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for an ETF's shares could result in the ETF's shares trading at a significant premium or discount to its NAV. An ETF has its own fees and expenses, which are indirectly borne by the fund. A fund may also incur brokerage and other related costs when it purchases and sells ETFs. Also, in the case of passively-managed ETFs, there is a risk that an ETF may fail to closely track the index or market segment that it is designed to track due to delays in the ETF's implementation of changes to the composition of the index or other factors.

### Exchange-traded notes risk

ETNs are a type of unsecured, unsubordinated debt security that have characteristics and risks similar to those of fixed-income securities and trade on a major exchange similar to shares of ETFs. This type of debt security differs, however, from other types of bonds and notes because ETN returns are based upon the performance of a market index minus applicable fees, no period coupon payments are distributed, and no principal protections exist. The purpose of ETNs is to create a type of security that combines the aspects of both bonds and ETFs. The value of an ETN may be influenced by time to maturity; level of supply and demand for the ETN; volatility and lack of liquidity in underlying commodities or securities markets; changes in the applicable interest rates; changes in the issuer's credit rating; and economic, legal, political, or geographic events that affect the referenced commodity or security. The fund's decision to sell its ETN holdings also may be limited by the availability of a secondary market. If the fund must sell some or all of its ETN holdings and the secondary market is weak, it may have to sell such holdings at a discount. If the fund holds its investment in an ETN until maturity, the issuer will give the fund a cash amount that would be equal to the principal amount (subject to the day's index factor). ETNs are also subject to counterparty credit risk and fixed-income risk.

### Fixed-income securities risk

Fixed-income securities are generally subject to two principal types of risk, as well as other risks described below: (1) interest-rate risk and (2) credit quality risk.

**Interest-rate risk.** Fixed-income securities are affected by changes in interest rates. When interest rates decline, the market value of fixed-income securities generally can be expected to rise. Conversely, when interest rates rise, the market value of fixed-income securities generally can be expected to decline. The longer the duration or maturity of a fixed-income security, the more susceptible it is to interest-rate risk. Recent and potential future changes in government monetary policy may affect the level of interest rates.

The fixed-income securities market has been and may continue to be negatively affected by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. As with other serious economic disruptions, governmental authorities and regulators are responding to this crisis with significant fiscal and monetary policy changes, including considerably lowering interest rates, which, in some cases could result in negative interest rates. These actions, including their possible

unexpected or sudden reversal or potential ineffectiveness, could further increase volatility in securities and other financial markets and reduce market liquidity. To the extent the fund has a bank deposit or holds a debt instrument with a negative interest rate to maturity, the fund would generate a negative return on that investment. Similarly, negative rates on investments by money market funds and similar cash management products could lead to losses on investments, including on investments of the fund's uninvested cash.

**Credit quality risk.** Fixed-income securities are subject to the risk that the issuer of the security will not repay all or a portion of the principal borrowed and will not make all interest payments. If the credit quality of a fixed-income security deteriorates after a fund has purchased the security, the market value of the security may decrease and lead to a decrease in the value of the fund's investments. An issuer's credit quality could deteriorate as a result of poor management decisions, competitive pressures, technological obsolescence, undue reliance on suppliers, labor issues, shortages, corporate restructurings, fraudulent disclosures, or other factors. Funds that may invest in lower-rated fixed-income securities, commonly referred to as junk securities, are riskier than funds that may invest in higher-rated fixed-income securities. Additional information on the risks of investing in investment-grade fixed-income securities in the lowest rating category and lower-rated fixed-income securities is set forth below.

**Prepayment of principal risk.** Many types of debt securities, including floating-rate loans, are subject to prepayment risk. Prepayment risk is the risk that, when interest rates fall, certain types of obligations will be paid off by the borrower more quickly than originally anticipated and the fund may have to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields. Securities subject to prepayment risk can offer less potential for gains when the credit quality of the issuer improves.

### Foreign securities risk

Funds that invest in securities traded principally in securities markets outside the United States are subject to additional and more varied risks, as the value of foreign securities may change more rapidly and extremely than the value of U.S. securities. Less information may be publicly available regarding foreign issuers, including foreign government issuers. Foreign securities may be subject to foreign taxes and may be more volatile than U.S. securities. Currency fluctuations and political and economic developments may adversely impact the value of foreign securities. The securities markets of many foreign countries are relatively small, with a limited number of companies representing a small number of industries. Additionally, issuers of foreign securities may not be subject to the same degree of regulation as U.S. issuers. Reporting, accounting, and auditing standards of foreign countries differ, in some cases significantly, from U.S. standards. There are generally higher commission rates on foreign portfolio transactions, transfer taxes, higher custodial costs, and the possibility that foreign taxes will be charged on dividends and interest payable on foreign securities, some or all of which may not be reclaimable. Also, adverse changes in investment or exchange control regulations (which may include suspension of the ability to transfer currency or assets from a country); political changes; or diplomatic developments could adversely affect a fund's investments. In the event of nationalization, expropriation, confiscatory taxation, or other confiscation, the fund could lose a substantial portion of, or its entire investment in, a foreign security. Some of the foreign securities risks are also applicable to funds that invest a material portion of their assets in securities of foreign issuers traded in the United States.

Any depositary receipts are subject to most of the risks associated with investing in foreign securities directly because the value of a depositary receipt is dependent upon the market price of the underlying foreign equity security. Depositary receipts are also subject to liquidity risk.

**Emerging-market risk.** Investments in the securities of issuers based in countries with emerging-market economies are subject to greater levels of risk and uncertainty than investments in more-developed foreign markets, since emerging-market securities may present market, credit, currency, liquidity, legal, political, and other risks greater than, or in addition to, the risks of investing in developed foreign countries. These risks include high currency exchange-rate fluctuations; increased risk of default (including both government and private issuers); greater social, economic, and political uncertainty and instability (including the risk of war); more substantial governmental involvement in the economy; less governmental supervision and regulation of the securities markets and participants in those markets; controls on foreign investment and limitations on repatriation of invested capital and on a fund's ability to exchange local currencies for U.S. dollars; unavailability of currency hedging techniques in certain emerging-market countries; the fact that companies in emerging-market countries may be newly organized, smaller, and less seasoned; the difference in, or lack of, auditing and financial reporting requirements or standards, which may result in the unavailability of material information about issuers; different clearance and settlement procedures, which may be unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions or otherwise make it difficult to engage in such transactions; difficulties in obtaining and/or enforcing legal judgments against non-U.S. companies and non-U.S. persons, including company directors and officers, in foreign jurisdictions; and significantly smaller market capitalizations of emerging-market issuers. In addition, shareholders of emerging market issuers, such as the fund, often have limited rights and few practical remedies in emerging markets. Finally, the risks associated with investments in emerging markets often are significant, and vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and company to company.

#### **Fund of funds risk**

The fund's ability to achieve its investment objective will depend largely on the ability of the manager to select the appropriate mix of unaffiliated underlying funds. In addition, achieving the fund's objective will depend on the performance of the unaffiliated underlying funds which depends on the unaffiliated underlying funds' ability to meet their investment objectives. There can be no assurance that either the fund or the unaffiliated underlying funds will achieve their investment objective.

The fund is subject to the same risks as the unaffiliated underlying funds in which it invests. The fund invests in unaffiliated underlying funds that invest in fixed-income securities (including, in some cases, high-yield securities) and equity securities, including foreign securities, and engages in hedging and other strategic transactions. To the extent that the fund invests in these securities directly or engages in hedging and other strategic transactions, the fund will be subject to the same risks.

The fund's investment in unaffiliated underlying funds may result in layering of fees.

#### **Hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions risk**

The ability of a fund to utilize hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions to benefit the fund will depend in part on its manager's ability to

predict pertinent market movements and market risk, counterparty risk, credit risk, interest-rate risk, and other risk factors, none of which can be assured. The skills required to utilize hedging and other strategic transactions are different from those needed to select a fund's securities. Even if the manager only uses hedging and other strategic transactions in a fund primarily for hedging purposes or to gain exposure to a particular securities market, if the transaction does not have the desired outcome, it could result in a significant loss to a fund. The amount of loss could be more than the principal amount invested. These transactions may also increase the volatility of a fund and may involve a small investment of cash relative to the magnitude of the risks assumed, thereby magnifying the impact of any resulting gain or loss. For example, the potential loss from the use of futures can exceed a fund's initial investment in such contracts. In addition, these transactions could result in a loss to a fund if the counterparty to the transaction does not perform as promised.

A fund may invest in derivatives, which are financial contracts with a value that depends on, or is derived from, the value of underlying assets, reference rates, or indexes. Derivatives may relate to stocks, bonds, interest rates, currencies or currency exchange rates, and related indexes. A fund may use derivatives for many purposes, including for hedging and as a substitute for direct investment in securities or other assets. Derivatives may be used in a way to efficiently adjust the exposure of a fund to various securities, markets, and currencies without a fund actually having to sell existing investments and make new investments. This generally will be done when the adjustment is expected to be relatively temporary or in anticipation of effecting the sale of fund assets and making new investments over time. Further, since many derivatives have a leverage component, adverse changes in the value or level of the underlying asset, reference rate, or index can result in a loss substantially greater than the amount invested in the derivative itself. Certain derivatives have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment. When a fund uses derivatives for leverage, investments in that fund will tend to be more volatile, resulting in larger gains or losses in response to market changes. To limit risks associated with leverage, a fund may segregate assets determined to be liquid or, as permitted by applicable regulation, enter into certain offsetting positions to cover its obligations under derivative instruments. For a description of the various derivative instruments the fund may utilize, refer to the SAI.

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 particular, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, and regulations promulgated or proposed thereunder require many derivatives to be cleared and traded on an exchange, expand entity registration requirements, impose business conduct requirements on dealers that enter into swaps with a pension plan, endowment, retirement plan or government entity, and required banks to move some derivatives trading units to a non-guaranteed affiliate separate from the deposit-taking bank or divest them altogether. Although the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) has released final rules relating to clearing, reporting, recordkeeping and registration requirements under the legislation, many of the provisions are subject to further final rule making, and thus its ultimate impact remains unclear. New regulations could, among other things, restrict the fund's ability to engage in derivatives transactions (for example, by making certain types of derivatives transactions no longer available to the fund) and/or increase the costs of such derivatives transactions (for example, by increasing margin or capital requirements), and the fund may be unable to fully execute its investment strategies as a result. Limits or restrictions applicable to the counterparties with which the fund engages in derivative

transactions also could prevent the fund from using these instruments or affect the pricing or other factors relating to these instruments, or may change the availability of certain investments.

In addition, new Rule 18f-4 (the Derivatives Rule), adopted by the SEC on October 28, 2020, replaces current asset segregation requirements with a new framework for the use of derivatives by registered funds. For funds using a significant amount of derivatives, the Derivatives Rule mandates a fund adopt and/or implement: (i) value at risk limitations in lieu of asset segregation requirements; (ii) a written derivatives risk management program; (iii) new Board oversight responsibilities; and (iv) new reporting and recordkeeping requirements. The Derivatives Rule provides an exception for funds with derivative exposure not exceeding 10% of its net assets, excluding certain currency and interest rate hedging transactions. In addition, the Derivatives Rule provides special treatment for reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions and unfunded commitment agreements. Funds will be required to comply with the Derivatives Rule starting on August 19, 2022.

At any time after the date of this prospectus, legislation may be enacted that could negatively affect the assets of the fund. Legislation or regulation may change the way in which the fund itself is regulated. The advisor cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the fund's ability to achieve its investment objectives.

The use of derivative instruments may involve risks different from, or potentially greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other, more traditional assets. In particular, the use of derivative instruments exposes a fund to the risk that the counterparty to an OTC derivatives contract will be unable or unwilling to make timely settlement payments or otherwise honor its obligations. OTC derivatives transactions typically can only be closed out with the other party to the transaction, although either party may engage in an offsetting transaction that puts that party in the same economic position as if it had closed out the transaction with the counterparty or may obtain the other party's consent to assign the transaction to a third party. If the counterparty defaults, the fund will have contractual remedies, but there is no assurance that the counterparty will meet its contractual obligations or that, in the event of default, the fund will succeed in enforcing them. For example, because the contract for each OTC derivatives transaction is individually negotiated with a specific counterparty, a fund is subject to the risk that a counterparty may interpret contractual terms (e.g., the definition of default) differently than the fund when the fund seeks to enforce its contractual rights. If that occurs, the cost and unpredictability of the legal proceedings required for the fund to enforce its contractual rights may lead it to decide not to pursue its claims against the counterparty. The fund, therefore, assumes the risk that it may be unable to obtain payments owed to it under OTC derivatives contracts or that those payments may be delayed or made only after the fund has incurred the costs of litigation. While a manager intends to monitor the creditworthiness of counterparties, there can be no assurance that a counterparty will meet its obligations, especially during unusually adverse market conditions. To the extent a fund contracts with a limited number of counterparties, the fund's risk will be concentrated and events that affect the creditworthiness of any of those counterparties may have a pronounced effect on the fund. Derivatives are also subject to a number of other risks, including market risk and liquidity risk. Since the value of derivatives is calculated and derived from the value of other assets, instruments, or references, there is a risk that they will be improperly valued. Derivatives also involve the risk that changes in their value may not correlate

perfectly with the assets, rates, or indexes they are designed to hedge or closely track. Suitable derivatives transactions may not be available in all circumstances. The fund is also subject to the risk that the counterparty closes out the derivatives transactions upon the occurrence of certain triggering events. In addition, a manager may determine not to use derivatives to hedge or otherwise reduce risk exposure. Government legislation or regulation could affect the use of derivatives transactions and could limit a fund's ability to pursue its investment strategies.

A detailed discussion of various hedging and other strategic transactions appears in the SAI. The following is a list of certain derivatives and other strategic transactions that the fund intends to utilize and the main risks associated with each of them:

**Foreign currency forward contracts.** Counterparty risk, liquidity risk (i.e., the inability to enter into closing transactions), foreign currency risk, and risk of disproportionate loss are the principal risks of engaging in transactions involving foreign currency forward contracts.

**Futures contracts.** Counterparty risk, liquidity risk (i.e., the inability to enter into closing transactions), and risk of disproportionate loss are the principal risks of engaging in transactions involving futures contracts.

**Options.** Counterparty risk, liquidity risk (i.e., the inability to enter into closing transactions), and risk of disproportionate loss are the principal risks of engaging in transactions involving options. Counterparty risk does not apply to exchange-traded options.

**Swaps.** Counterparty risk, liquidity risk (i.e., the inability to enter into closing transactions), interest-rate risk, settlement risk, risk of default of the underlying reference obligation, and risk of disproportionate loss are the principal risks of engaging in transactions involving swaps.

**Swaptions.** Risks associated with swaptions include liquidity risk (i.e., the inability to enter into closing transactions), risk of default of the underlying reference obligation, risk of disproportionate loss, and counterparty and interest-rate risk.

### High portfolio turnover risk

A high fund portfolio turnover rate (over 100%) generally involves correspondingly greater brokerage commission and tax expenses, which must be borne directly by a fund and its shareholders, respectively. The portfolio turnover rate of a fund may vary from year to year, as well as within a year.

### Illiquid and restricted securities risk

Certain securities are considered illiquid or restricted due to a limited trading market, legal or contractual restrictions on resale or transfer, or are otherwise illiquid because they cannot be sold or disposed of in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Securities that have limitations on their resale are referred to as "restricted securities." Certain restricted securities that are eligible for resale to qualified institutional purchasers may not be regarded as illiquid. Illiquid and restricted securities may be difficult to value and may involve greater risks than liquid securities. Market quotations for such securities may be volatile and/or subject to large spreads between bid and ask price. Illiquidity may have an adverse impact on market price and the fund's ability to sell particular securities when necessary to meet the fund's liquidity needs or in response to a specific economic event. The fund may incur additional expense when disposing of illiquid or restricted securities, including all or a portion of the cost to register the securities.

### **Inflation-protected securities risk**

Inflation-protected debt securities tend to react to changes in real interest rates. Real interest rates represent nominal (stated) interest rates reduced by the expected impact of inflation. In general, the price of an inflation-protected debt security falls when real interest rates rise, and rises when real interest rates fall. Interest payments on inflation-protected debt securities can be unpredictable and will vary as the principal and/or interest is adjusted for inflation.

### **Investment company securities risk**

The fund may invest in securities of other investment companies. Fund shareholders indirectly bear their proportionate share of the expenses of each such investment company. The total return on such investments will be reduced by the operating expenses and fees of such other investment companies, including advisory fees. Investments in closed-end funds may involve the payment of substantial premiums above the value of such investment companies' portfolio securities.

### **Large company risk**

Larger, more established companies may be unable to respond quickly to new competitive challenges such as changes in technology and consumer tastes. Many larger companies also may not be able to attain the high growth rate of successful smaller companies, especially during extended periods of economic expansion. For purposes of the fund's investment policies, the market capitalization of a company is based on its capitalization at the time the fund purchases the company's securities. Market capitalizations of companies change over time. The fund is not obligated to sell a company's security simply because, subsequent to its purchase, the company's market capitalization has changed to be outside the capitalization range, if any, in effect for the fund.

### **Liquidity risk**

The extent (if at all) to which a security may be sold or a derivative position closed without negatively impacting its market value may be impaired by reduced market activity or participation, legal restrictions, or other economic and market impediments. Funds with principal investment strategies that involve investments in securities of companies with smaller market capitalizations, foreign securities, derivatives, or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk tend to have the greatest exposure to liquidity risk. Exposure to liquidity risk may be heightened for funds that invest in securities of emerging markets and related derivatives that are not widely traded, and that may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.

The capacity of traditional dealers to engage in fixed-income trading has not kept pace with the bond market's growth. As a result, dealer inventories of corporate bonds, which indicate the ability to "make markets," i.e., buy or sell a security at the quoted bid and ask price, respectively, are at or near historic lows relative to market size. Because market makers provide stability to fixed-income markets, the significant reduction in dealer inventories could lead to decreased liquidity and increased volatility, which may become exacerbated during periods of economic or political stress.

### **Lower-rated and high-yield fixed-income securities risk**

Lower-rated fixed-income securities are defined as securities rated below investment grade (such as Ba and below by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and BB and below by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services and Fitch Ratings, as applicable) (also called junk bonds). The general risks of investing in these securities are as follows:

**Risk to principal and income.** Investing in lower-rated fixed-income securities is considered speculative. While these securities generally provide greater income potential than investments in higher-rated securities, there is a greater risk that principal and interest payments will not be made. Issuers of these securities may even go into default or become bankrupt.

**Price volatility.** The price of lower-rated fixed-income securities may be more volatile than securities in the higher-rating categories. This volatility may increase during periods of economic uncertainty or change. The price of these securities is affected more than higher-rated fixed-income securities by the market's perception of their credit quality, especially during times of adverse publicity. In the past, economic downturns or increases in interest rates have, at times, caused more defaults by issuers of these securities and may do so in the future. Economic downturns and increases in interest rates have an even greater effect on highly leveraged issuers of these securities.

**Liquidity.** The market for lower-rated fixed-income securities may have more limited trading than the market for investment-grade fixed-income securities. Therefore, it may be more difficult to sell these securities, and these securities may have to be sold at prices below their market value in order to meet redemption requests or to respond to changes in market conditions.

**Dependence on manager's own credit analysis.** While a manager may rely on ratings by established credit rating agencies, it will also supplement such ratings with its own independent review of the credit quality of the issuer. Therefore, the assessment of the credit risk of lower-rated fixed-income securities is more dependent on the manager's evaluation than the assessment of the credit risk of higher-rated securities.

**Additional risks regarding lower-rated corporate fixed-income securities.** Lower-rated corporate fixed-income securities (and comparable unrated securities) tend to be more sensitive to individual corporate developments and changes in economic conditions than higher-rated corporate fixed-income securities. Issuers of lower-rated corporate fixed-income securities may also be highly leveraged, increasing the risk that principal and income will not be repaid.

**Additional risks regarding lower-rated foreign government fixed-income securities.** Lower-rated foreign government fixed-income securities are subject to the risks of investing in foreign countries described under "Foreign securities risk." In addition, the ability and willingness of a foreign government to make payments on debt when due may be affected by the prevailing economic and political conditions within the country. Emerging-market countries may experience high inflation, interest rates, and unemployment, as well as exchange-rate fluctuations which adversely affect trade and political uncertainty or instability. These factors increase the risk that a foreign government will not make payments when due.

### **Natural resources industry risk**

The natural resources industry can be significantly affected by events relating to international political and economic developments, energy conservation, the success of exploration projects, natural disasters or other extreme weather conditions, commodity prices, and taxes and other governmental regulations.

### **Preferred and convertible securities risk**

Unlike interest on debt securities, preferred stock dividends are payable only if declared by the issuer's board. Also, preferred stock may be subject to optional or mandatory redemption provisions. The market values of convertible securities tend to fall as interest rates rise and rise as interest rates fall. The value of



convertible preferred stock can depend heavily upon the value of the security into which such convertible preferred stock is converted, depending on whether the market price of the underlying security exceeds the conversion price.

### **Real estate securities risk**

Investing in securities of companies in the real estate industry subjects a fund to the risks associated with the direct ownership of real estate.

These risks include:

- Declines in the value of real estate
- Risks related to general and local economic conditions
- Possible lack of availability of mortgage funds
- Overbuilding
- Extended vacancies of properties
- Increased competition
- Increases in property taxes and operating expenses
- Changes in zoning laws
- Losses due to costs resulting from the cleanup of environmental problems
- Liability to third parties for damages resulting from environmental problems
- Casualty or condemnation losses
- Limitations on rents
- Changes in neighborhood values and the appeal of properties to tenants
- Changes in interest rates and
- Liquidity risk

Therefore, for a fund investing a substantial amount of its assets in securities of companies in the real estate industry, the value of the fund's shares may change at different rates compared with the value of shares of a fund with investments in a mix of different industries.

Securities of companies in the real estate industry have been and may continue to be negatively affected by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Potential impacts on the real estate market may include lower occupancy rates, decreased lease payments, defaults and foreclosures, among other consequences. These impacts could adversely affect corporate borrowers and mortgage lenders, the value of mortgage-backed securities, the bonds of municipalities that depend on tax revenues and tourist dollars generated by such properties, and insurers of the property and/or of corporate, municipal or mortgage-backed securities. It is not known how long such impacts, or any future impacts of other significant events, will last.

Securities of companies in the real estate industry include equity REITs and mortgage REITs. Equity REITs may be affected by changes in the value of the underlying property owned by the REIT, while mortgage REITs may be affected by the quality of any credit extended. Further, equity and mortgage REITs are dependent upon management skills and generally may not be diversified. Equity and mortgage REITs are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency, defaults by borrowers or lessees, and self-liquidations. In addition, equity and mortgage REITs could possibly fail to qualify for tax-free pass through of income under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the Code) or to maintain their exemptions from registration under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. The above factors may also adversely affect a borrower's or a lessee's ability to meet its obligations to a REIT. In the event of a default by a

borrower or lessee, a REIT may experience delays in enforcing its rights as a mortgagee or lessor and may incur substantial costs associated with protecting its investments.

In addition, even the larger REITs in the industry tend to be small to medium-sized companies in relation to the equity markets as a whole. Moreover, shares of REITs may trade less frequently and, therefore, are subject to more erratic price movements than securities of larger issuers.

### **Sector risk**

When a fund's investments are focused in one or more sectors of the economy, they are less broadly invested across industries or sectors than other funds. This means that focused funds tend to be more volatile than other funds, and the values of their investments tend to go up and down more rapidly. In addition, a fund that invests in particular sectors is particularly susceptible to the impact of market, economic, political, regulatory, and other conditions and risks affecting those sectors. From time to time, a small number of companies may represent a large portion of a single sector or a group of related sectors as a whole.

### **Short sales risk**

The fund may make short sales of securities. This means the fund may sell a security that it does not own in anticipation of a decline in the market value of the security. The fund generally borrows the security to deliver to the buyer in a short sale. The fund must then buy the security at its market price when the borrowed security must be returned to the lender. Short sales involve costs and risk. The fund must pay the lender interest on a security it borrows, and the fund will lose money if the price of the borrowed security increases between the time of the short sale and the date when the fund replaces the borrowed security. Further, if other short positions of the same security are closed out at the same time, a "short squeeze" can occur where demand exceeds the supply for the security sold short. A short squeeze makes it more likely that the fund will need to replace the borrowed security at an unfavorable price. The fund may also make short sales "against the box." In a short sale against the box, at the time of sale, the fund owns or has the right to acquire the identical security, or one equivalent in kind or amount, at no additional cost.

Subject to regulatory requirements, until the fund closes its short position or replaces a borrowed security, the fund will (i) segregate with its custodian cash or other liquid assets at such a level that the amount segregated plus the amount deposited with the lender as collateral will equal the current market value of the security sold short or (ii) otherwise cover its short position. The need to maintain cash or other liquid assets in segregated accounts could limit the fund's ability to pursue other opportunities as they arise.

### **Small and mid-sized company risk**

Market risk and liquidity risk may be pronounced for securities of companies with medium-sized market capitalizations and are particularly pronounced for securities of companies with smaller market capitalizations. These companies may have limited product lines, markets, or financial resources, or they may depend on a few key employees. The securities of companies with medium and smaller market capitalizations may trade less frequently and in lesser volume than more widely held securities, and their value may fluctuate more sharply than those securities. They may also trade in the OTC market or on a regional exchange, or may otherwise have limited liquidity. Investments in less-seasoned companies with medium and smaller market capitalizations may not only present greater opportunities for growth and capital appreciation, but also

involve greater risks than are customarily associated with more established companies with larger market capitalizations. These risks apply to all funds that invest in the securities of companies with smaller- or medium-sized market capitalizations. For purposes of the fund's investment policies, the market capitalization of a company is based on its capitalization at the time the fund purchases the company's securities. Market capitalizations of companies change over time. The fund is not obligated to sell a company's security simply because, subsequent to its purchase, the company's market capitalization has changed to be outside the capitalization range, if any, in effect for the fund.

## WHO'S WHO

The following are the names of the various entities involved with the fund's investment and business operations, along with brief descriptions of the role each entity performs.

### Board of Trustees

The Trustees oversee the fund's business activities and retain the services of the various firms that carry out the fund's operations.

### Investment advisor

The investment advisor manages the fund's business and investment activities.

#### **John Hancock Investment Management LLC** **200 Berkeley Street** **Boston, MA 02116**

Founded in 1968, the advisor is an indirect principally owned subsidiary of John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.), which in turn is a subsidiary of Manulife Financial Corporation.

The advisor's parent company has been helping individuals and institutions work toward their financial goals since 1862. The advisor offers investment solutions managed by leading institutional money managers, taking a disciplined team approach to portfolio management and research, leveraging the expertise of seasoned investment professionals. As of December 31, 2020, the advisor had total assets under management of approximately \$153.3 billion.

Subject to general oversight by the Board of Trustees, the advisor manages and supervises the investment operations and business affairs of the fund. The advisor selects, contracts with and compensates one or more subadvisors to manage all or a portion of the fund's portfolio assets, subject to oversight by the advisor. In this role, the advisor has supervisory responsibility for managing the investment and reinvestment of the fund's portfolio assets through proactive oversight and monitoring of the subadvisor and the fund, as described in further detail below. The advisor is responsible for developing overall investment strategies for the fund and overseeing and implementing the fund's continuous investment programs and provides a variety of advisory oversight and investment research services. The advisor also provides management and transition services associated with certain fund events (e.g., strategy, portfolio manager, or subadvisor changes) and coordinates and oversees services provided under other agreements.

The advisor has ultimate responsibility to oversee a subadvisor and recommend to the Board of Trustees its hiring, termination, and replacement. In this capacity, the advisor, among other things: (i) monitors on a daily basis the compliance of the subadvisor with the investment objectives and related policies of the fund; (ii) monitors significant changes that may impact the

subadvisor's overall business and regularly performs due diligence reviews of the subadvisor; (iii) reviews the performance of the subadvisor; and (iv) reports periodically on such performance to the Board of Trustees. The advisor employs a team of investment professionals who provide these ongoing research and monitoring services.

The fund relies on an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) permitting the advisor, subject to approval by the Board of Trustees, to appoint a subadvisor or change the terms of a subadvisory agreement without obtaining shareholder approval. The fund, therefore, is able to change subadvisors or the fees paid to a subadvisor, from time to time, without the expense and delays associated with obtaining shareholder approval of the change. This order does not, however, permit the advisor to appoint a subadvisor that is an affiliate of the advisor or the fund (other than by reason of serving as a subadvisor to the fund), or to increase the subadvisory fee of an affiliated subadvisor, without the approval of the shareholders.

### Management fee

The fund pays the advisor a management fee for its services to the fund. The advisor in turn pays the fees of the subadvisor. The management fee is stated as an annual percentage of the aggregate net assets of the fund (together with the assets of any other applicable fund identified in the advisory agreement) determined in accordance with the following schedule, and that rate is applied to the average daily net assets of the fund.

Average daily net assets (\$)	Annual rate (%)
First 500 million	1.000
Excess over 500 million	0.950

During its most recent fiscal year, the fund paid the advisor a management fee equal to 0.00% of average daily net assets (including any waivers and/or reimbursements).

The basis for the Board of Trustees' approval of the advisory fees, and of the investment advisory agreement overall, including the subadvisory agreement, is discussed in the fund's most recent annual shareholder report for the period ended July 31.

### Additional information about fund expenses

The fund's annual operating expenses will likely vary throughout the period and from year to year. The fund's expenses for the current fiscal year may be higher than the expenses listed in the fund's Annual fund operating expenses table, for some of the following reasons: (i) a significant decrease in average net assets may result in a higher advisory fee rate if any advisory fee breakpoints are not achieved; (ii) a significant decrease in average net assets may result in an increase in the expense ratio because certain fund expenses do not decrease as asset levels decrease; or (iii) fees may be incurred for extraordinary events such as fund tax expenses.

As described in "Fund summary - Fees and expenses" on page 1 of this prospectus, the advisor has contractually agreed to waive a portion of its management fee and/or reimburse expenses for certain funds of the John Hancock funds complex, including the fund (the participating portfolios). The waiver equals, on an annualized basis, 0.0100% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$75 billion but is less than or equal to \$125 billion; 0.0125% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$125 billion but is less than or equal to \$150 billion; 0.0150% of that portion of the

aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$150 billion but is less than or equal to \$175 billion; 0.0175% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$175 billion but is less than or equal to \$200 billion; 0.0200% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$200 billion but is less than or equal to \$225 billion; and 0.0225% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$225 billion. The amount of the reimbursement is calculated daily and allocated among all the participating portfolios in proportion to the daily net assets of each fund. This agreement expires on July 31, 2022, unless renewed by mutual agreement of the fund and the advisor based upon a determination that this is appropriate under the circumstances at that time.

The advisor voluntarily agrees to reduce its management fee for the fund, or if necessary make payment to the fund, in an amount equal to the amount by which the expenses of the fund exceed 1.27% of the average daily net assets of the fund. For purposes of this agreement, “expenses of the fund” means all the expenses of the fund, excluding (a) taxes, (b) brokerage commissions, (c) interest expense, (d) litigation and indemnification expenses and other extraordinary expenses not incurred in the ordinary course of the fund’s business, (e) advisory fees, (f) class-specific expenses, (g) underlying fund expenses (acquired fund fees), and (h) short dividend expense. The advisor may terminate this voluntary waiver at any time upon notice to the fund.

#### **Subadvisor**

The subadvisor handles the fund’s portfolio management activities, subject to oversight by the advisor.

#### **Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC 197 Clarendon Street Boston, MA 02116**

Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC (Manulife IM (US)) provides investment advisory services to individual and institutional investors. Manulife IM (US) is an indirect principally owned subsidiary of John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.) (a subsidiary of Manulife Financial Corporation) and, as of September 30, 2020, had total assets under management of approximately \$204.6 billion.

The following are brief biographical profiles of the leaders of the fund’s investment management team, in alphabetical order. These managers are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund’s portfolio. These managers are employed by Manulife IM (US). For more details about these individuals, including information about their compensation, other accounts they manage, and any investment they may have in the fund, see the SAI.

#### **Christopher Fellingham**

- Senior Managing Director, Head of Liquid Alternative Strategies
- Managed the fund since 2018
- Joined the subadvisor in 2016
- Chief Investment Officer, Ignis Asset Management (2010–2015)

#### **Andrew Graham**

- Senior Managing Director, Senior Portfolio Manager
- Managed the fund since 2018
- Joined the subadvisor in 2017
- Multi-Asset Private Wealth Portfolio Manager, RBC Capital Markets (2015–2017)
- Head of European Rates Trading, RBC Capital Markets (2014–2015)

#### **Mark Holden, CFA**

- Managing Director and Portfolio Manager
- Managed the fund since 2018
- Joined the subadvisor in 2017
- Investment Director, Standard Life Investments (2014–2016)
- Senior Portfolio Manager, Ignis Asset Management (2011–2014)

#### **David J. Rule, CFA, FRM**

- Managing Director and Portfolio Manager
- Managed the fund since 2021
- Joined the subadvisor in 2017
- Head of foreign exchange (FX) trading, Lombard Odier Asset Management (2015–2017)

#### **Nathan W. Thooft, CFA**

- Vice President, Senior Managing Director, Co-Head Portfolio Solutions Group North America
- Managed the fund since 2015
- Joined the subadvisor in 2008

#### **Christopher Walsh, CFA**

- Managing Director and Portfolio Manager
- Managed the fund since 2018
- Senior Investment Analyst at subadvisor until 2017
- Joined the subadvisor in 2009

#### **Custodian**

The custodian holds the fund’s assets, settles all portfolio trades, and collects most of the valuation data required for calculating the fund’s net asset value.

#### **State Street Bank and Trust Company State Street Financial Center One Lincoln Street Boston, MA 02111**


#### **Principal distributor**

The principal distributor markets the fund and distributes shares through selling brokers, financial planners, and other financial professionals.

#### **John Hancock Investment Management Distributors LLC 200 Berkeley Street Boston, MA 02116**

#### **Additional information**

The fund has entered into contractual arrangements with various parties that provide services to the fund, which may include, among others, the advisor, subadvisor, custodian, principal distributor, and transfer agent, as described



above and in the SAI. Fund shareholders are not parties to, or intended or “third-party” beneficiaries of, any of these contractual arrangements. These contractual arrangements are not intended to, nor do they, create in any individual shareholder or group of shareholders any right, either directly or on behalf of the fund, to either: (a) enforce such contracts against the service providers; or (b) seek any remedy under such contracts against the service providers.

This prospectus provides information concerning the fund that you should consider in determining whether to purchase shares of the fund. Each of this prospectus, the SAI, or any contract that is an exhibit to the fund’s registration statement, is not intended to, nor does it, give rise to an agreement or contract between the fund and any investor. Each such document also does not give rise to any contract or create rights in any individual shareholder, group of shareholders, or other person. The foregoing disclosure should not be read to suggest any waiver of any rights conferred by federal or state securities laws.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Because Class NAV shares of the fund had not commenced operations as of the last reporting period, this table details the financial performance of Class A shares of the fund, which are described in a separate prospectus, including total return information showing how much an investment in the fund has increased or decreased each period (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). Certain information reflects financial results for a single fund share. Because Class NAV shares have different expenses than Class A shares, financial highlights for Class NAV shares would have differed.

The financial statements of the fund as of July 31, 2020, have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC), the fund's independent registered public accounting firm. The report of PwC, along with the fund's financial statements in the fund's annual report for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2020 and the fund's unaudited financial statements in the fund's semiannual report for the fiscal period ended January 31, 2021, has been incorporated by reference into the SAI. Copies of the fund's most recent annual and semiannual reports are available upon request.

### Absolute Return Opportunities Fund Class A Shares

Per share operating performance	Period ended	1-31-21 <sup>1</sup>	7-31-20	7-31-19	7-31-18	7-31-17	7-31-16
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>		<b>\$8.00</b>	<b>\$7.96</b>	<b>\$10.13</b>	<b>\$10.50</b>	<b>\$10.09</b>	<b>\$10.43</b>
Net investment income (loss) <sup>2</sup>		(0.05)	(0.01)	0.05	0.07	0.12	0.17
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments		— <sup>3</sup>	0.13	0.01	(0.08)	0.45	(0.27)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>		<b>(0.05)</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>0.06</b>	<b>(0.01)</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>(0.10)</b>
<b>Less distributions</b>							
From net investment income		—	(0.08)	—	(0.36)	(0.16)	(0.23)
From net realized gain		(0.13)	—	(2.23)	—	—	(0.01)
<b>Total distributions</b>		<b>(0.13)</b>	<b>(0.08)</b>	<b>(2.23)</b>	<b>(0.36)</b>	<b>(0.16)</b>	<b>(0.24)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>		<b>\$7.82</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>	<b>\$7.96</b>	<b>\$10.13</b>	<b>\$10.50</b>	<b>\$10.09</b>
<b>Total return (%)<sup>4,5</sup></b>		<b>(0.95)<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>1.23</b>	<b>(0.17)</b>	<b>5.74</b>	<b>(0.96)</b>
<b>Ratios and supplemental data</b>							
Net assets, end of period (in millions)		\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$32	\$30
Ratios (as a percentage of average net assets):							
Expenses before reductions <sup>7</sup>		2.84 <sup>8</sup>	2.96	2.57	1.89	1.71	1.77
Expenses including reductions <sup>7</sup>		1.70 <sup>8</sup>	1.71	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.70
Net investment income (loss)		(1.24) <sup>8</sup>	(0.11)	0.63	0.62	1.22	1.67
Portfolio turnover (%)		392 <sup>9</sup>	542 <sup>9</sup>	173 <sup>9</sup>	171 <sup>9</sup>	73	55

1 Six months ended 1-31-21. Unaudited.

2 Based on average daily shares outstanding.

3 Less than \$0.005 per share.

4 Total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the applicable periods.

5 Does not reflect the effect of sales charges, if any.

6 Not annualized.

7 Ratios do not include expense indirectly incurred from underlying funds and can vary based on the mix of underlying funds held by the fund.

8 Annualized.

9 The calculation of portfolio turnover excludes amounts from all securities whose maturities or expiration dates at the time of acquisition were one year or less, which represents a significant amount of the investments held by the fund.

### WHO CAN BUY SHARES

Class NAV shares are sold to certain affiliated funds, each of which is a fund of funds that invests in various other funds. Class NAV shares may also be sold to retirement plans for employees of John Hancock-and/or Manulife Financial Corporation-affiliated companies only, including John Hancock qualified plans and nonqualified deferred compensation plans and separate investment accounts of John Hancock and its insurance affiliates, and to the issuers of interests in the John Hancock Freedom 529 Plan, including the Education Trust of Alaska.

### CLASS COST STRUCTURE

- No sales charges
- No distribution and service (Rule 12b-1) fees

*Other share classes of the fund, which have their own expense structures, may be offered in separate prospectuses. Your broker-dealer or agent may charge you a fee to effect transactions in fund shares.*

### Payments to financial intermediaries

Class NAV shares do not carry sales commissions or pay Rule 12b-1 fees. However, certain financial intermediaries may request, and the distributor may agree to make, payments out of the distributor's own resources. These payments are sometimes referred to as revenue sharing. These payments assist in the distributor's efforts to promote the sale of the fund's shares. The distributor agrees with the firm on the methods for calculating any compensation, which may include the level of sales or assets attributable to the firm. Not all firms receive such compensation and the amount of compensation varies. These payments could be significant to a firm. The distributor determines which firms to support and the extent of the payments it is willing to make. The distributor generally chooses to compensate firms that have a strong capability to distribute shares of the fund and that are willing to cooperate with the distributor's promotional efforts.

The distributor hopes to benefit from revenue sharing by increasing the fund's net assets, which, as well as benefiting the fund, would result in additional management and other fees for the advisor and its affiliates. In consideration for revenue sharing, a firm may feature the fund in its sales system or give preferential access to members of its sales force or management. In addition, the firm may agree to participate in the distributor's marketing efforts by allowing the distributor or its affiliates to participate in conferences, seminars, or other programs attended by the intermediary's sales force. Although an intermediary may seek revenue-sharing payments to offset costs incurred by the firm in servicing its clients who have invested in the fund, the intermediary may earn a profit on these payments. Revenue-sharing payments may provide your firm with an incentive to favor the fund.

The SAI discusses the distributor's revenue-sharing arrangements in more detail. Your intermediary may charge you additional fees other than those disclosed in this prospectus. You can ask your firm about any payments it receives from the distributor or the fund, as well as about fees and/or commissions it charges.

The distributor, advisor, and their affiliates may have other relationships with your firm relating to the provisions of services to the fund, such as providing omnibus account services, transaction-processing services, or effecting portfolio transactions for the fund. If your intermediary provides these services, the advisor or the fund may compensate the intermediary for these services. In

addition, your intermediary may have other compensated relationships with the advisor or its affiliates that are not related to the fund.

### OPENING AN ACCOUNT

- 1 Read this prospectus carefully.
- 2 Determine if you are eligible by referring to "Who can buy shares."
- 3 Permitted entities generally may open an account and purchase Class NAV shares by contacting any broker-dealer or other financial service firm authorized to sell Class NAV shares of the fund. There is no minimum initial investment for Class NAV shares.

### TRANSACTION POLICIES

#### Valuation of shares

The net asset value (NAV) for each class of shares of the fund is normally determined once daily as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) (typically 4:00 P.M., Eastern time, on each business day that the NYSE is open). In case of emergency or other disruption resulting in the NYSE not opening for trading or the NYSE closing at a time other than the regularly scheduled close, the NAV may be determined as of the regularly scheduled close of the NYSE pursuant to the fund's Valuation Policies and Procedures. The time at which shares and transactions are priced and until which orders are accepted may vary to the extent permitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission and applicable regulations. On holidays or other days when the NYSE is closed, the NAV is not calculated and the fund does not transact purchase or redemption requests. Trading of securities that are primarily listed on foreign exchanges may take place on weekends and U.S. business holidays on which the fund's NAV is not calculated. Consequently, the fund's portfolio securities may trade and the NAV of the fund's shares may be significantly affected on days when a shareholder will not be able to purchase or redeem shares of the fund.

Each class of shares of the fund has its own NAV, which is computed by dividing the total assets, minus liabilities, allocated to each share class by the number of fund shares outstanding for that class. The current NAV of the fund is available on our website at [jhinvestments.com](http://jhinvestments.com).

#### Valuation of securities

Portfolio securities are valued by various methods that are generally described below. Portfolio securities also may be fair valued by the fund's Pricing Committee in certain instances pursuant to procedures established by the Trustees. Equity securities are generally valued at the last sale price or, for certain markets, the official closing price as of the close of the relevant exchange. Securities not traded on a particular day are valued using last available bid prices. A security that is listed or traded on more than one exchange is typically valued at the price on the exchange where the security was acquired or most likely will be sold. In certain instances, the Pricing Committee may determine to value equity securities using prices obtained from another exchange or market if trading on the exchange or market on which prices are typically obtained did not open for trading as scheduled, or if trading closed earlier than scheduled, and trading occurred as normal on another exchange or market. Equity securities traded principally in foreign markets are typically valued using the last sale price or official closing price in the relevant exchange or market, as adjusted by an independent pricing vendor to reflect fair value. On any day a foreign market is closed and the NYSE is open, any foreign securities will typically be valued using the last price or official closing

price obtained from the relevant exchange on the prior business day adjusted based on information provided by an independent pricing vendor to reflect fair value. Debt obligations are typically valued based on evaluated prices provided by an independent pricing vendor. The value of securities denominated in foreign currencies is converted into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate supplied by an independent pricing vendor. Forward foreign currency contracts are valued at the prevailing forward rates which are based on foreign currency exchange spot rates and forward points supplied by an independent pricing vendor. Exchange-traded options are valued at the mid-price of the last quoted bid and ask prices. Futures contracts whose settlement prices are determined as of the close of the NYSE are typically valued based on the settlement price while other futures contracts are typically valued at the last traded price on the exchange on which they trade. Foreign equity index futures that trade in the electronic trading market subsequent to the close of regular trading may be valued at the last traded price in the electronic trading market as of the close of the NYSE, or may be fair valued based on fair value adjustment factors provided by an independent pricing vendor in order to adjust for events that may occur between the close of foreign exchanges or markets and the close of the NYSE. Swaps and unlisted options are generally valued using evaluated prices obtained from an independent pricing vendor. Shares of other open-end investment companies that are not exchange-traded funds (underlying funds) are valued based on the NAVs of such underlying funds.

Pricing vendors may use matrix pricing or valuation models that utilize certain inputs and assumptions to derive values, including transaction data, broker-dealer quotations, credit quality information, general market conditions, news, and other factors and assumptions. The fund may receive different prices when it sells odd-lot positions than it would receive for sales of institutional round lot positions. Pricing vendors generally value securities assuming orderly transactions of institutional round lot sizes, but a fund may hold or transact in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes.

The Pricing Committee engages in oversight activities with respect to pricing vendors, which includes, among other things, monitoring significant or unusual price fluctuations above predetermined tolerance levels from the prior day, back-testing of pricing vendor prices against actual trades, conducting periodic due diligence meetings and reviews, and periodically reviewing the inputs, assumptions and methodologies used by these vendors. Nevertheless, market quotations, official closing prices, or information furnished by a pricing vendor could be inaccurate, which could lead to a security being valued incorrectly.

If market quotations, official closing prices, or information furnished by a pricing vendor are not readily available or are otherwise deemed unreliable or not representative of the fair value of such security because of market- or issuer-specific events, a security will be valued at its fair value as determined in good faith by the Trustees. The Trustees are assisted in their responsibility to fair value securities by the fund's Pricing Committee, and the actual calculation of a security's fair value may be made by the Pricing Committee acting pursuant to the procedures established by the Trustees. In certain instances, therefore, the Pricing Committee may determine that a reported valuation does not reflect fair value, based on additional information available or other factors, and may accordingly determine in good faith the fair value of the assets, which may differ from the reported valuation.

Fair value pricing of securities is intended to help ensure that a fund's NAV reflects the fair market value of the fund's portfolio securities as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE (as opposed to a value that no longer reflects

market value as of such close), thus limiting the opportunity for aggressive traders or market timers to purchase shares of the fund at deflated prices reflecting stale security valuations and promptly sell such shares at a gain, thereby diluting the interests of long-term shareholders. However, a security's valuation may differ depending on the method used for determining value, and no assurance can be given that fair value pricing of securities will successfully eliminate all potential opportunities for such trading gains.

The use of fair value pricing has the effect of valuing a security based upon the price the fund might reasonably expect to receive if it sold that security in an orderly transaction between market participants, but does not guarantee that the security can be sold at the fair value price. Further, because of the inherent uncertainty and subjective nature of fair valuation, a fair valuation price may differ significantly from the value that would have been used had a readily available market price for the investment existed and these differences could be material.

Regarding the fund's investment in an underlying fund that is not an ETF, which (as noted above) is valued at such underlying fund's NAV, the prospectus for such underlying fund explains the circumstances and effects of fair value pricing for that underlying fund.

### **Buy and sell prices**

When you buy shares, you pay the NAV. When you sell shares, you receive the NAV.

### **Execution of requests**

The fund is open for business when the NYSE is open, typically 9:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Eastern time, Monday through Friday. A purchase or redemption order received in good order by the fund prior to the close of regular trading on the NYSE, on a day the fund is open for business, will be effected at that day's NAV. An order received in good order after the fund close will generally be effected at the NAV determined on the next business day. In case of emergency or other disruption resulting in the NYSE not opening for trading or the NYSE closing at a time other than the regularly scheduled close, the time until which orders are accepted may vary to the extent permitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission and applicable regulations. This may result in the fund closing for business prior to the time at which the fund's NAV is determined. In this case, orders submitted after the fund closing may receive the NAV determined on the next business day.

The fund typically expects to mail or wire redemption proceeds between 1 and 3 business days following the receipt of the shareholder's redemption request. Processing time is not dependent on the chosen delivery method. In unusual circumstances, the fund may temporarily suspend the processing of sell requests or may postpone payment of proceeds for up to three business days or longer, as allowed by federal securities laws.

Under normal market conditions, the fund typically expects to meet redemption requests through holdings of cash or cash equivalents or through sales of portfolio securities, and may access other available liquidity facilities. In unusual or stressed market conditions, such as, for example, during a period of time in which a foreign securities exchange is closed, in addition to the methods used in normal market conditions, the fund may meet redemption requests through the use of its line of credit, interfund lending facility, redemptions in kind, or such other liquidity means or facilities as the fund may have in place from time to time.

## Excessive trading

The fund is intended for long-term investment purposes only and does not knowingly accept shareholders who engage in market timing or other types of excessive short-term trading. Short-term trading into and out of the fund can disrupt portfolio investment strategies and may increase fund expenses for all shareholders, including long-term shareholders who do not generate these costs.

## Right to reject or restrict purchase and exchange orders

Purchases and exchanges should be made primarily for investment purposes. The fund reserves the right to restrict, reject, or cancel (with respect to cancellations within one day of the order), for any reason and without any prior notice, any purchase or exchange order, including transactions representing excessive trading and transactions accepted by any shareholder's financial intermediary. For example, the fund may, in its discretion, restrict, reject, or cancel a purchase or exchange order even if the transaction is not subject to a specific limitation on exchange activity, as described below, if the fund or its agent determines that accepting the order could interfere with the efficient management of the fund's portfolio, or otherwise not be in the fund's best interest in light of unusual trading activity related to your account. In the event that the fund rejects or cancels an exchange request, neither the redemption nor the purchase side of the exchange will be processed. If you would like the redemption request to be processed even if the purchase order is rejected, you should submit separate redemption and purchase orders rather than placing an exchange order. The fund reserves the right to delay for up to one business day, consistent with applicable law, the processing of exchange requests in the event that, in the fund's judgment, such delay would be in the fund's best interest, in which case both the redemption and purchase side of the exchange will receive the fund's NAV at the conclusion of the delay period. The fund, through its agents in their sole discretion, may impose these remedial actions at the account holder level or the underlying shareholder level.

## Exchange limitation policies

The Board of Trustees has adopted the following policies and procedures by which the fund, subject to the limitations described below, takes steps reasonably designed to curtail excessive trading practices.

## Limitation on exchange activity

The fund or its agent may reject or cancel a purchase order, suspend or terminate the exchange privilege, or terminate the ability of an investor to invest in John Hancock funds if the fund or its agent determines that a proposed transaction involves market timing or disruptive trading that it believes is likely to be detrimental to the fund. The fund or its agent cannot ensure that it will be able to identify all cases of market timing or disruptive trading, although it attempts to have adequate procedures in place to do so. The fund or its agent may also reject or cancel any purchase order (including an exchange) from an investor or group of investors for any other reason. Decisions to reject or cancel purchase orders (including exchanges) in the fund are inherently subjective and will be made in a manner believed to be in the best interest of the fund's shareholders. The fund does not have any arrangement to permit market timing or disruptive trading.

Exchanges made on the same day in the same account are aggregated for purposes of counting the number and dollar amount of exchanges made by the account holder. The exchange limits referenced above will not be imposed or may be modified under certain circumstances. For example, these exchange

limits may be modified for accounts held by certain retirement plans to conform to plan exchange limits, ERISA considerations, or U.S. Department of Labor regulations. Certain automated or preestablished exchange, asset allocation, and dollar-cost-averaging programs are not subject to these exchange limits. These programs are excluded from the exchange limitation since the fund believes that they are advantageous to shareholders and do not offer an effective means for market timing or excessive trading strategies. These investment tools involve regular and predetermined purchase or redemption requests made well in advance of any knowledge of events affecting the market on the date of the purchase or redemption.

These exchange limits are subject to the fund's ability to monitor exchange activity, as discussed under "Limitation on the ability to detect and curtail excessive trading practices" below. Depending upon the composition of the fund's shareholder accounts, and in light of the limitations on the ability of the fund to detect and curtail excessive trading practices, a significant percentage of the fund's shareholders may not be subject to the exchange limitation policy described above. In applying the exchange limitation policy, the fund considers information available to it at the time and reserves the right to consider trading activity in a single account or multiple accounts under common ownership, control, or influence.

## Limitation on the ability to detect and curtail excessive trading practices

Shareholders seeking to engage in excessive trading practices sometimes deploy a variety of strategies to avoid detection and, despite the efforts of the fund to prevent excessive trading, there is no guarantee that the fund or its agent will be able to identify such shareholders or curtail their trading practices. The ability of the fund and its agent to detect and curtail excessive trading practices may also be limited by operational systems and technological limitations. Because the fund will not always be able to detect frequent trading activity, investors should not assume that the fund will be able to detect or prevent all frequent trading or other practices that disadvantage the fund. For example, the ability of the fund to monitor trades that are placed by omnibus or other nominee accounts is severely limited in those instances in which the financial intermediary, including a financial advisor, broker, retirement plan administrator, or fee-based program sponsor, maintains the records of the fund's underlying beneficial owners. Omnibus or other nominee account arrangements are common forms of holding shares of the fund, particularly among certain financial intermediaries, such as financial advisors, brokers, retirement plan administrators, or fee-based program sponsors. These arrangements often permit the financial intermediary to aggregate its clients' transactions and ownership positions and do not identify the particular underlying shareholder(s) to the fund. However, the fund will work with financial intermediaries as necessary to discourage shareholders from engaging in abusive trading practices and to impose restrictions on excessive trades. In this regard, the fund has entered into information-sharing agreements with financial intermediaries pursuant to which these intermediaries are required to provide to the fund, at the fund's request, certain information relating to their customers investing in the fund through omnibus or other nominee accounts. The fund will use this information to attempt to identify excessive trading practices. Financial intermediaries are contractually required to follow any instructions from the fund to restrict or prohibit future purchases from shareholders that are found to have engaged in excessive trading in violation of the fund's policies. The fund cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information provided to it from financial intermediaries and so cannot ensure that it will be



able to detect abusive trading practices that occur through omnibus or other nominee accounts. As a consequence, the fund's ability to monitor and discourage excessive trading practices in these types of accounts may be limited.

### **Excessive trading risk**

To the extent that the fund or its agent is unable to curtail excessive trading practices in the fund, these practices may interfere with the efficient management of the fund's portfolio and may result in the fund engaging in certain activities to a greater extent than it otherwise would, such as maintaining higher cash balances, using its line of credit, and engaging in increased portfolio transactions. Increased portfolio transactions and use of the line of credit would correspondingly increase the fund's operating costs and decrease the fund's investment performance. Maintenance of higher levels of cash balances would likewise result in lower fund investment performance during periods of rising markets.

While excessive trading can potentially occur in the fund, certain types of funds are more likely than others to be targets of excessive trading. For example:

- A fund that invests a significant portion of its assets in small- or mid-capitalization stocks or securities in particular industries that may trade infrequently or are fair valued as discussed under "Valuation of securities" entails a greater risk of excessive trading, as investors may seek to trade fund shares in an effort to benefit from their understanding of the value of those types of securities (referred to as price arbitrage).
- A fund that invests a material portion of its assets in securities of foreign issuers may be a potential target for excessive trading if investors seek to engage in price arbitrage based upon general trends in the securities markets that occur subsequent to the close of the primary market for such securities.
- A fund that invests a significant portion of its assets in below-investment-grade (junk) bonds that may trade infrequently or are fair valued as discussed under "Valuation of securities" incurs a greater risk of excessive trading, as investors may seek to trade fund shares in an effort to benefit from their understanding of the value of those types of securities (referred to as price arbitrage).

Any frequent trading strategies may interfere with efficient management of a fund's portfolio and raise costs. A fund that invests in the types of securities discussed above may be exposed to this risk to a greater degree than a fund that invests in highly liquid securities. These risks would be less significant, for example, in a fund that primarily invests in U.S. government securities, money market instruments, investment-grade corporate issuers, or large-capitalization U.S. equity securities. Any successful price arbitrage may cause dilution in the value of the fund shares held by other shareholders.

## **DIVIDENDS AND ACCOUNT POLICIES**

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### **Account statements**

In general, you will receive account statements from your plan's recordkeeper. Every year you should also receive, if applicable, a Form 1099 tax information statement mailed by February 15 by your plan's recordkeeper.

### **Dividends**

The fund typically declares and pays income dividends and capital gains, if any, at least annually.

### **Dividend reinvestments**

Most investors have their dividends reinvested in additional shares of the same class of the same fund. If you choose this option, or if you do not indicate any choice, your dividends will be reinvested. Alternatively, you may choose to have your dividends and capital gains sent directly to your bank account or a check may be mailed if your combined dividend and capital gains amount is \$10 or more. However, if the check is not deliverable or the combined dividend and capital gains amount is less than \$10, your proceeds will be reinvested. If five or more of your dividend or capital gains checks remain uncashed after 180 days, all subsequent dividends and capital gains will be reinvested.

### **Taxability of dividends**

For investors who are not exempt from federal income taxes, dividends you receive from the fund, whether reinvested or taken as cash, are generally considered taxable. Dividends from the fund's short-term capital gains are taxable as ordinary income. Dividends from the fund's long-term capital gains are taxable at a lower rate. Whether gains are short-term or long-term depends on the fund's holding period. Some dividends paid in January may be taxable as if they had been paid the previous December.

The Form 1099 that is mailed to you every February, if applicable, details your dividends and their federal tax category, although you should verify your tax liability with your tax professional.

### **Returns of capital**

If the fund's distributions exceed its taxable income and capital gains realized during a taxable year, all or a portion of the distributions made in the same taxable year may be recharacterized as a return of capital to shareholders. A return of capital distribution will generally not be taxable, but will reduce each shareholder's cost basis in the fund and result in a higher reported capital gain or lower reported capital loss when those shares on which the distribution was received are sold.

### **Taxability of transactions**

Any time you sell or exchange shares, it is considered a taxable event for you if you are not exempt from federal income taxes. Depending on the purchase price and the sale price of the shares you sell or exchange, you may have a gain or a loss on the transaction. You are responsible for any tax liabilities generated by your transactions.

## **ADDITIONAL INVESTOR SERVICES**

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### **Disclosure of fund holdings**

The following information for the fund is posted on the website, [jhinvestments.com](http://jhinvestments.com), generally on the fifth business day after month end: top 10 holdings; top 10 sector analysis; total return/yield; top 10 countries; average quality/maturity; beta/alpha; and top 10 portfolio composition. All of the holdings of the fund will be posted to the website no earlier than 15 days after each calendar month end, and will remain posted on the website for six months. All of the fund's holdings as of the end of the third month of every fiscal quarter will be disclosed on Form N-PORT within 60 days of the end of the fiscal quarter. All of the fund's holdings as of the end of the second and fourth fiscal quarters will be disclosed on Form N-CSR within 70 days of the end of such fiscal quarters. A description of the fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of its portfolio securities is available in the SAI.

## For more information

Two documents are available that offer further information on the fund:

### Annual/semiannual reports to shareholders

Additional information about the fund's investments is available in the fund's annual and semiannual reports to shareholders. In the fund's annual report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the fund's performance during its last fiscal year.

As of January 1, 2021, paper copies of the fund's shareholder reports are no longer sent by mail. Instead, the reports are made available on [jhinvestments.com](http://jhinvestments.com), 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 eDelivery.

### Statement of Additional Information (SAI)

The SAI contains more detailed information on all aspects of the fund and includes a summary of the fund's policy regarding disclosure of its portfolio holdings, as well as legal and regulatory matters. A current SAI has been filed with the SEC and is incorporated by reference into (and is legally a part of) this prospectus.

### To obtain a free copy of these documents or request other information

There are several ways you can get a current annual/semiannual report, prospectus, or SAI from John Hancock, request other information, or make inquiries:

**Online:** [jhinvestments.com](http://jhinvestments.com)

#### By mail:

John Hancock Funds  
200 Berkeley Street  
Boston, MA 02116

**By phone:** 800-344-1029

You can also view or obtain copies of these documents through the SEC:

**Online:** [sec.gov](http://sec.gov)

**By email (duplicating fee required):** [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov)

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