

# FRANKLIN TEMPLETON VARIABLE INSURANCE PRODUCTS TRUST

May 1, 2019



## CLASS 2

### Templeton Global Bond VIP Fund

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

**Internet Delivery of Shareholder Reports:** Effective January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the SEC, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's annual or semi-annual shareholder reports by mail, unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports from the insurance company that offers your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract or from your financial intermediary. Instead of delivering paper copies of the report, the insurance company may choose to make the reports available on a website, and will notify you by mail each time a shareholder report is posted and provide you with a website link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from the insurance company or your financial intermediary electronically by following the instructions provided by the insurance company or by contacting your financial intermediary.

You may elect to receive all future Fund shareholder reports in paper free of charge from the insurance company. You can inform the insurance company or your financial intermediary that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by the insurance company or by contacting your financial intermediary. Your election to receive reports in paper will apply to all portfolio companies available under your contract with the insurance company.



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## Investment Goal

High current income, consistent with preservation of capital. Capital appreciation is a secondary consideration.

## Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund. **The table and the example do not include any fees or sales charges imposed by variable insurance contracts, qualified retirement plans or funds of funds.** If they were included, your costs would be higher.

### Annual Fund Operating Expenses

(expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	Class 2
Management fees	0.46%
Distribution and service (12b-1) fees	0.25%
Other expenses	0.10%
Acquired fund fees and expenses <sup>1</sup>	0.09%
Total annual Fund operating expenses <sup>1</sup>	0.90%
Fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement <sup>2</sup>	-0.11%
<b>Total annual Fund operating expenses after fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement<sup>1,2</sup></b>	<b>0.79%</b>

1. Total annual Fund operating expenses differ from the ratio of expenses to average net assets shown in the Financial Highlights, which reflect the operating expenses of the Fund and do not include acquired fund fees and expenses.

2. The investment manager has contractually agreed in advance to reduce its fee as a result of the Fund's investment in a Franklin Templeton money fund (acquired fund) for at least one year following the date of this prospectus. Contractual fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement agreements may not be changed or terminated during the time period set forth above.

### Example

This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of the period. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. The Example reflects adjustments made to the Fund's operating expenses due to the fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements by management for the 1 Year numbers only. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Class 2	\$81	\$276	\$488	\$1,102

## 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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual Fund operating expenses or in the example, affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 18.22% of the average value of its portfolio.

## Principal Investment Strategies

Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets in "bonds." Bonds include debt securities of any maturity, such as bonds, notes, bills and debentures. The Fund invests predominantly in bonds issued by governments, government-related entities and government agencies located around the world. Bonds may be denominated and issued in the local currency or another currency. The Fund may also invest in securities or structured products that are linked to or derive their value from another security, asset or currency of any nation. Under normal market conditions, the Fund expects to invest at least 40% of its net assets in foreign securities, and may invest without limit in emerging or developing markets.

Although the Fund may buy bonds rated in any category, it focuses on "investment grade" bonds. These are issues rated in the top four rating categories by at least one independent rating agency, such as Standard & Poor's (S&P®) or Moody's Investors Service (Moody's) or, if unrated, determined by the Fund's investment manager to be of comparable quality. The Fund may invest up to 25% of its total assets in bonds that are rated below investment grade or, if unrated, determined by the investment manager to be of comparable quality. Generally, lower rated securities pay higher yields than more highly rated securities to compensate investors for the higher risk. The Fund may invest in debt securities of any maturity, and the average maturity of debt securities in the Fund's portfolio will fluctuate depending on the investment manager's outlook on changing market, economic and political conditions.

## FUND SUMMARIES

The Fund is a “non-diversified” fund, which means it generally invests a greater portion of its assets in the securities of one or more issuers and invests overall in a smaller number of issuers than a diversified fund.

For purposes of pursuing its investment goals, the Fund regularly enters into various currency-related derivative instruments, such as currency and cross currency forwards, currency and currency index futures contracts and currency options. The Fund maintains extensive positions in currency-related derivative instruments as a hedging technique or to implement a currency investment strategy, which could expose a large amount of the Fund’s assets to obligations under these instruments. The results of such transactions may represent, from time to time, a large component of the Fund’s investment returns. The use of these derivative transactions may allow the Fund to obtain net long or net negative (short) exposure to selected currencies. The Fund may also enter into interest rate-related derivatives, such as interest rate/bond futures and interest rate swap agreements and credit-related derivatives, such as credit default swaps. These derivative instruments may be used for hedging purposes, to enhance returns or to obtain net long or net negative (short) exposure to selected currencies, interest rates, countries or durations.

When choosing investments for the Fund, the investment manager allocates the Fund’s assets based upon its assessment of changing market, political and economic conditions. It considers various factors, including evaluation of interest rates, currency exchange rate changes and credit risks. The investment manager may consider selling a security when it believes the security has become fully valued due to either its price appreciation or changes in the issuer’s fundamentals, or when the investment manager believes another security is a more attractive investment opportunity.

The Fund may, at times, maintain a large position in cash and cash equivalents (including money market funds).

### Principal Risks

You could lose money by investing in the Fund. Mutual fund shares are not deposits or obligations of, or guaranteed or endorsed by, any bank, and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board, or any other agency of the U.S. government.

**Foreign Securities (non-U.S.)** Investing in foreign securities typically involves more risks than investing in U.S. securities, and includes risks associated

with: (i) internal and external political and economic developments – e.g., the political, economic and social policies and structures of some foreign countries may be less stable and more volatile than those in the U.S. or some foreign countries may be subject to trading restrictions or economic sanctions; (ii) trading practices – e.g., government supervision and regulation of foreign securities and currency markets, trading systems and brokers may be less than in the U.S.; (iii) availability of information – e.g., foreign issuers may not be subject to the same disclosure, accounting and financial reporting standards and practices as U.S. issuers; (iv) limited markets – e.g., the securities of certain foreign issuers may be less liquid (harder to sell) and more volatile; and (v) currency exchange rate fluctuations and policies. The risks of foreign investments may be greater in developing or emerging market countries.

**Currency Management Strategies** Currency management strategies may substantially change the Fund’s exposure to currency exchange rates and could result in losses to the Fund if currencies do not perform as the investment manager expects. In addition, currency management strategies, to the extent that they reduce the Fund’s exposure to currency risks, may also reduce the Fund’s ability to benefit from favorable changes in currency exchange rates. Using currency management strategies for purposes other than hedging further increases the Fund’s exposure to foreign investment losses. Currency markets generally are not as regulated as securities markets. In addition, currency rates may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time, and can reduce returns.

**Sovereign Debt Securities** Sovereign debt securities are subject to various risks in addition to those relating to debt securities and foreign investments generally, including, but not limited to, the risk that a governmental entity may be unwilling or unable to pay interest and repay principal on its sovereign debt, or otherwise meet its obligations when due because of cash flow problems, insufficient foreign reserves, the relative size of the debt service burden to the economy as a whole, the government’s policy towards principal international lenders such as the International Monetary Fund, or the political considerations to which the government may be subject. If a sovereign debtor defaults (or threatens to default) on its sovereign debt obligations, the indebtedness may be restructured. Some sovereign debtors have in the past been able to restructure their debt payments without the approval of some or all debt holders or to declare moratoria on payments. In the

event of a default on sovereign debt, the Fund may also have limited legal recourse against the defaulting government entity.

**Regional** Adverse conditions in a certain region or country can adversely affect securities of issuers in other countries whose economies appear to be unrelated. To the extent that the Fund invests a significant portion of its assets in a specific geographic region or a particular country, the Fund will generally have more exposure to the specific regional or country economic risks. In the event of economic or political turmoil or a deterioration of diplomatic relations in a region or country where a substantial portion of the Fund's assets are invested, the Fund may experience substantial illiquidity or reduction in the value of the Fund's investments.

**Developing Market Countries** The Fund's investments in securities of issuers in developing market countries are subject to all of the risks of foreign investing generally, and have additional heightened risks due to a lack of established legal, political, business and social frameworks to support securities markets, including: delays in settling portfolio securities transactions; currency and capital controls; greater sensitivity to interest rate changes; pervasiveness of corruption and crime; currency exchange rate volatility; and inflation, deflation or currency devaluation.

**Market** The market values of securities or other investments owned by the Fund will go up or down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably. The market value of a security or other investment may be reduced by market activity or other results of supply and demand unrelated to the issuer. This is a basic risk associated with all investments. When there are more sellers than buyers, prices tend to fall. Likewise, when there are more buyers than sellers, prices tend to rise.

**Interest Rate** When interest rates rise, debt security prices generally fall. The opposite is also generally true: debt security prices rise when interest rates fall. Interest rate changes are influenced by a number of factors, including government policy, monetary policy, inflation expectations, perceptions of risk, and supply of and demand for bonds. In general, securities with longer maturities or durations are more sensitive to interest rate changes.

**Liquidity** From time to time, the trading market for a particular security or type of security or other investments in which the Fund invests may become less liquid or even illiquid. Reduced liquidity will have an adverse impact on the Fund's ability to sell such securities or other investments when necessary to meet the Fund's

liquidity needs, which may arise or increase in response to a specific economic event or because the investment manager wishes to purchase particular investments or believes that a higher level of liquidity would be advantageous. Reduced liquidity will also generally lower the value of such securities or other investments. Market prices for such securities or other investments may be relatively volatile.

**Credit** An issuer of debt securities may fail to make interest payments or repay principal when due, in whole or in part. Changes in an issuer's financial strength or in a security's credit rating may affect a security's value.

**High-Yield Debt Securities** Issuers of lower-rated or "high-yield" debt securities (also known as "junk bonds") are not as strong financially as those issuing higher credit quality debt securities. High-yield debt securities are generally considered predominantly speculative by the applicable rating agencies as their issuers are more likely to encounter financial difficulties because they may be more highly leveraged, or because of other considerations. In addition, high yield debt securities generally are more vulnerable to changes in the relevant economy, such as a recession or a sustained period of rising interest rates, that could affect their ability to make interest and principal payments when due. The prices of high-yield debt securities generally fluctuate more than those of higher credit quality. High-yield debt securities are generally more illiquid (harder to sell) and harder to value.

**Derivative Instruments** The performance of derivative instruments depends largely on the performance of an underlying instrument, such as a currency, security, interest rate or index, and such instruments often have risks similar to the underlying instrument, in addition to other risks. Derivatives involve costs and can create economic leverage in the Fund's portfolio which may result in significant volatility and cause the Fund to participate in losses (as well as gains) in an amount that exceeds the Fund's initial investment. Certain derivatives have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment. Other risks include illiquidity, mispricing or improper valuation of the derivative instrument, and imperfect correlation between the value of the derivative and the underlying instrument so that the Fund may not realize the intended benefits. When a derivative is used for hedging, the change in value of the derivative may also not correlate specifically with the currency, security, interest rate, index or other risk being hedged. Derivatives also may present the risk that the other party to the transaction will fail to perform.

## FUND SUMMARIES

**Income** The Fund's distributions to shareholders may decline when prevailing interest rates fall, when the Fund experiences defaults on debt securities it holds, or when the Fund realizes a loss upon the sale of a debt security.

**Non-Diversification** Because the Fund is non-diversified, it may be more sensitive to economic, business, political or other changes affecting individual issuers or investments than a diversified fund, which may result in greater fluctuation in the value of the Fund's shares and greater risk of loss.

**Cash Position** To the extent that the Fund holds a large position in cash/cash equivalents (including money market funds) the Fund may lose opportunities

to participate in market appreciation and may have lower returns than if the Fund made other investments. In such circumstances, the Fund may not achieve its investment goal.

**Management** The Fund is subject to management risk because it is an actively managed investment portfolio. The Fund's investment manager applies investment techniques and risk analyses in making investment decisions for the Fund, but there can be no guarantee that these decisions will produce the desired results.



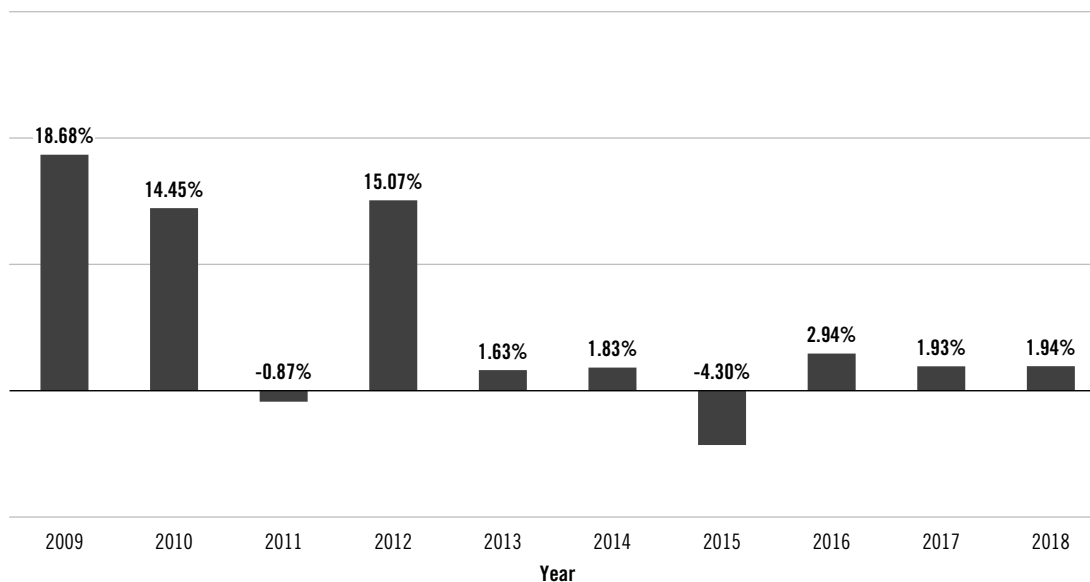
## Performance

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The bar chart shows changes in the Fund's performance from year to year for Class 2 shares. The table shows how the Fund's average annual returns for 1 year, 5 years, 10 years or since inception, as applicable, compare with those of a broad measure of market performance. The Fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future.

The inclusion of the Citigroup World Government Bond Index (WGBI) shows how the Fund's performance compares to a group of securities in an additional leading government bond index.

Performance reflects all Fund expenses but does not include any fees or sales charges imposed by variable insurance contracts, qualified plans or funds of funds. If they had been included, the returns shown below would be lower. Investors should consult the variable insurance contract prospectus, or the disclosure documents for qualified plans or funds of funds for more information.

### Annual Total Returns



<b>Best Quarter:</b>	Q3'10	8.66%
<b>Worst Quarter:</b>	Q3'11	-7.52%

As of March 31, 2019, the Fund's year-to-date return was 1.84%.

### Average Annual Total Returns

For the periods ended December 31, 2018

	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
<b>Templeton Global Bond VIP Fund - Class 2</b>	1.94%	0.83%	5.08%
JP Morgan Global Government Bond Index (index reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	-0.66%	1.11%	1.74%
Citigroup World Government Bond Index (index reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	-0.84%	0.77%	1.52%

No one index is representative of the Fund's portfolio.

## Investment Manager

Franklin Advisers, Inc. (Advisers)

## Portfolio Managers

### **Michael Hasenstab, Ph.D.**

Executive Vice President of Advisers and portfolio manager of the Fund since 2001.

### **Calvin Ho, Ph.D.**

Senior Vice President of Advisers and portfolio manager of the Fund since December 2018.

## Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund are sold to insurance companies' separate accounts (Insurers) to fund variable annuity or variable life insurance contracts and to qualified plans. Insurance companies offer variable annuity and variable life insurance products through separate accounts. Shares of the Fund may also be sold to other mutual funds, either as underlying funds in a fund of funds or in other structures. In addition, Fund shares are held by a limited number of Insurers, qualified retirement plans and, when applicable, funds of funds. Substantial withdrawals by one or more Insurers, qualified retirement plans or funds of funds could reduce Fund assets, causing total Fund expenses to become higher than the numbers shown in the fees and expenses table above.

The terms of the offering of interests in separate accounts are included in the variable annuity or variable life insurance product prospectus. The terms of offerings of funds of funds are included in those funds' prospectuses. The terms of offering of qualified retirement plans are described in their disclosure documents. Investors

should consult the variable contract prospectus, fund of fund prospectus, or plan disclosure documents for more information on fees and expenses imposed by variable insurance contracts, funds of funds or qualified retirement plans, respectively.

## Taxes

Because shares of the Fund are generally purchased through variable annuity contracts or variable life insurance contracts, the Fund's distributions (which the Fund expects, based on its investment goals and strategies to consist of ordinary income, capital gains or some combination of both) will be exempt from current taxation if left to accumulate within the variable contract. You should refer to your contract prospectus for more information on these tax consequences.

## Payments to Sponsoring Insurance Companies and Other Financial Intermediaries

The Fund or its distributor (and related companies) may pay broker/dealers or other financial intermediaries (such as banks and insurance companies, or their related companies) for the sale and retention of variable contracts which offer Fund shares and/or for other services. These payments may create a conflict of interest for an intermediary or be a factor in the insurance company's decision to include the Fund as an investment option in its variable contract. For more information, ask your financial advisor, visit your intermediary's website, or consult the Contract prospectus or this Fund prospectus.

# FRANKLIN TEMPLETON VARIABLE INSURANCE PRODUCTS TRUST

## Overview

Franklin Templeton Variable Insurance Products Trust (the Trust) currently consists of multiple series (Funds), offering a wide variety of investment choices. Funds may be available in multiple classes: Class 1, Class 2, Class 4 and Class 5. The classes are identical except that Class 2, Class 4 and Class 5 each has a distribution plan (see “Share Classes” under Fund Account Information). The Funds are not offered to the public; they are offered and sold only to: (1) insurance company separate accounts to serve as the underlying investment vehicle for variable contracts; (2) certain qualified plans; and (3) other funds of funds.

### Investment Considerations

- The following give a general sense of the level of fund assets associated with a particular investment or strategy: “small portion” (less than 10%); “portion” (10% to 25%); “significant” (25% to 50%); “substantial” (50% to 66%); “primary” (66% to 80%); and “predominant” (80% or more). The percentages are not limitations unless specifically stated as such in this prospectus or in the Trust’s Statement of Additional Information (SAI).

### Risks

- Fund shares are not deposits or obligations of, or guaranteed or endorsed by, any bank, and are not federally insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board, or any other agency of the U.S. government. Fund shares involve investment risks, including the possible loss of principal.

- Because you could lose money by investing in a Fund, take the time to read each Fund description and consider all risks before investing.

### Additional Information

More detailed information about each Fund, its investment policies, and its particular risks can be found in the SAI.

### Investment Management

The Funds’ investment managers and their affiliates manage as of February 28, 2019, over \$714 billion in assets, and have been in the investment management business since 1947. In 1992, Franklin joined forces with Templeton, a pioneer in international investing. The Mutual Series organization became part of the Franklin Templeton organization four years later. In 2001, the Fiduciary Trust team, known for providing global investment management to institutions and high net worth clients worldwide, joined the organization.

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## Investment Goal

The Fund's investment goal is high current income, consistent with preservation of capital. Capital appreciation is a secondary consideration.

## Principal Investment Policies and Practices

Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets in "bonds." Bonds include debt securities of any maturity, such as bonds, notes, bills and debentures. Shareholders will be given at least 60 days' advance notice of any change to the 80% policy. The Fund invests predominantly in bonds issued by governments, government-related entities and government agencies located around the world. Bonds may be denominated and issued in the local currency or in another currency. The Fund may also invest in inflation-indexed securities and securities or structured products that are linked to or derive their value from another security, asset or currency of any nation. Under normal market conditions, the Fund expects to invest at least 40% of its net assets in foreign securities. In addition, the Fund's assets are invested in issuers located in at least three countries (including the U.S.). The Fund may invest without limit in developing markets.

Bonds represent an obligation of the issuer to repay a loan of money to it, and generally provide for the payment of interest. Although the Fund may buy bonds rated in any category, it focuses on "investment grade" bonds. These are issues rated in the top four rating categories by at least one independent rating agency, such as Standard & Poor's (S&P®) or Moody's Investors Service (Moody's) or, if unrated, determined by the Fund's investment manager to be of comparable quality. However, ratings by the independent rating agencies are relative and subjective, are not absolute standards of quality, and do not evaluate the market risk of securities. The Fund may invest up to 25% of its total assets in debt securities that are rated below investment grade. Generally, lower rated securities pay higher yields than more highly rated securities to compensate investors for the greater risk of default or of price fluctuations due to changes in the issuer's creditworthiness. Such lower rated but higher yielding securities are sometimes referred to as "junk bonds." If, subsequent to its purchase a security is downgraded in rating or goes into default, the Fund will consider such events in its evaluation of the overall investment merits of that security but will not necessarily dispose of the security immediately.

Many debt securities of non-U.S. issuers, and especially developing market issuers, are rated below investment grade or are unrated so that their selection depends on the investment manager's internal analysis.

The Fund may invest in debt securities of any maturity. The average maturity or duration of debt securities in the Fund's portfolio will fluctuate depending on the investment manager's outlook on changing market, economic, and political conditions.

The Fund is a "non-diversified" fund, which means it generally invests a greater portion of its assets in the securities of one or more issuers and invests overall in a smaller number of issuers than a diversified fund.

For purposes of pursuing its investment goals, the Fund regularly enters into currency-related derivative instruments, such as currency and cross currency forwards, currency and currency index futures contracts and currency options. The Fund maintains extensive positions in currency-related derivatives instruments as a hedging technique or to implement a currency investment strategy, which could expose a large amount of the Fund's assets to obligations under these instruments. The use of these derivative transactions may allow the Fund to obtain net long or net negative (short) exposure to selected currencies. The results of such transactions may also represent, from time to time, a significant component of the Fund's investment returns. The Fund may also enter into interest rate-related derivatives, such as interest rate or bond futures and interest rate swap agreements and credit-related derivatives, such as credit default swaps. The use of these derivative transactions may allow the Fund to obtain net long or net negative (short) exposures to selected interest rates, countries, duration or credit risks. The investment manager considers various factors, such as availability and cost, in deciding whether, when and to what extent to enter into derivative transactions.

The Fund may use any of the above currency techniques or other derivative transactions for the purposes of enhancing Fund returns, increasing liquidity, gaining exposure to particular instruments in more efficient or less expensive ways and/or hedging risks relating to changes in currency exchange rates, interest rates and other market factors. By way of example, when the investment manager believes that the value of a particular foreign currency is expected to increase compared to the U.S. dollar, the Fund could enter into a forward contract to purchase that foreign currency at a future date. If at such future date the value of the foreign currency exceeds the then current amount of U.S. dollars to be paid by the Fund under the contract, the Fund will recognize a gain.

## FUND DETAILS

Conversely, if the value of the foreign currency is less than the current amount of the U.S. dollars to be paid by the Fund under the contract, the Fund will recognize a loss. When used for hedging purposes, a forward contract or other derivative instrument could be used to protect against possible declines in a currency's value where a security held or to be purchased by the Fund is denominated in that currency, or it may be used to hedge the Fund's position by entering into a transaction on another currency expected to perform similarly to the currency of the security held or to be purchased (a "proxy hedge").

A currency forward contract is an obligation to purchase or sell a specific foreign currency in exchange for another currency, which may be U.S. dollars, at an agreed exchange rate (price) at a future date. Currency forwards are typically individually negotiated and privately traded by currency traders and their customers in the interbank market. A cross currency forward is a forward contract to sell a specific foreign currency in exchange for another foreign currency and may be used when the Fund believes that the price of one of those foreign currencies will experience a substantial movement against the other foreign currency. A currency forward will tend to reduce or eliminate exposure to the currency that is sold, and increase exposure to the currency that is purchased, similar to when the Fund sells a security denominated in one currency and purchases a security denominated in another currency. When used for hedging purposes, a currency forward should help to protect the Fund against losses resulting from a decline in the hedged currency, but will cause the Fund to assume the risk of fluctuations in the value of the currency it purchases.

A futures contract is a standard binding agreement that trades on an exchange to buy or sell a specified quantity of an underlying instrument or asset at a specified price at a specified later date. A "sale" of a futures contract means the acquisition of a contractual obligation to deliver the underlying instrument called for by the contract at a specified price on a specified date. A "purchase" of a futures contract means the acquisition of a contractual obligation to acquire a specified quantity of the underlying instrument called for by the contract at a specified price on a specified date. The purchase or sale of a futures contract will allow the Fund to increase or decrease its exposure to the underlying instrument or asset. Although most futures contracts used by the Fund allow for a cash payment of the net gain or loss on the contract at maturity in lieu of delivery of the underlying instruments, some

require the actual delivery or acquisition of the underlying instrument or asset. The Fund may buy and sell futures contracts that trade on U.S. and foreign exchanges.

Swap agreements, such as interest rate and credit default swaps, are contracts between the Fund and another party (the swap counterparty) involving the exchange of payments on specified terms over periods ranging from a few days to multiple years. A swap agreement may be negotiated bilaterally and traded over-the-counter (OTC) between two parties (for an uncleared swap) or, in some instances, must be transacted through a futures commission merchant (FCM) and cleared through a clearinghouse that serves as a central counterparty (for a cleared swap). In a basic swap transaction, the Fund agrees with the swap counterparty to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) and/or cash flows earned or realized on a particular "notional amount" of underlying instruments. The notional amount is the set amount selected by the parties as the basis on which to calculate the obligations that they have agreed to exchange. The parties typically do not actually exchange the notional amount. Instead, they agree to exchange the returns that would be earned or realized if the notional amount were invested in given instruments or at given interest rates.

An interest rate swap is an agreement between two parties to exchange interest rate payment obligations. Typically, one rate is based on an interest rate fixed to maturity while the other is based on an interest rate that changes in accordance with changes in a designated benchmark (for example, LIBOR, prime, commercial paper, or other benchmarks).

For credit default swaps, the "buyer" of the credit default swap agreement is obligated to pay the "seller" a periodic stream of payments over the term of the agreement in return for a payment by the seller that is contingent upon the occurrence of a credit event with respect to an underlying reference debt obligation. The buyer of the credit default swap is purchasing the obligation of its counterparty to offset losses the buyer could experience if there was such a credit event. Generally, a credit event means bankruptcy, failure to timely pay interest or principal, obligation acceleration or default, or repudiation or restructuring of the reference debt obligation. The contingent payment by the seller generally is either the face amount of the reference debt obligation in exchange for the physical delivery of the reference debt obligation or a cash payment equal to the decrease in market value of the reference debt obligation following the occurrence of the credit event.

The Fund may, at times, maintain a large position in cash and cash equivalents (including money market funds).

### Portfolio Selection

The investment manager allocates the Fund's assets based upon its assessment of changing market, political and economic conditions. It considers various factors, including evaluation of interest rates, currency exchange rate changes and credit risks. The investment manager may consider selling a security when it believes the security has become fully valued due to either its price appreciation or changes in the issuer's fundamentals, or when the investment manager believes another security is a more attractive investment opportunity.

### Exclusion of Investment Manager from Commodity Pool Operator Definition

With respect to the Fund, the investment manager has claimed an exclusion from the definition of "commodity pool operator" (CPO) under the Commodity Exchange Act (CEA) and the rules of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) and, therefore, is not subject to CFTC registration or regulation as a CPO. In addition, with respect to the Fund, the investment manager is relying upon a related exclusion from the definition of "commodity trading advisor" (CTA) under the CEA and the rules of the CFTC.

The terms of the CPO exclusion require the Fund, among other things, to adhere to certain limits on its investments in commodity futures, commodity options and swaps, which in turn include non-deliverable currency forward contracts, as further described in the Fund's Statement of Additional Information (SAI). Because the investment manager and the Fund intend to comply with the terms of the CPO exclusion, the Fund may, in the future, need to adjust its investment strategies, consistent with its investment goal, to limit its investments in these types of instruments. The Fund is not intended as a vehicle for trading in the commodity futures, commodity options, or swaps markets. The CFTC has neither reviewed nor approved the investment manager's reliance on these exclusions, or the Fund, its investment strategies or this prospectus.

### Temporary Investments

When the investment manager believes market or economic conditions are unfavorable for investors, the investment manager may invest up to 100% of the Fund's assets in a temporary defensive manner by holding all or a substantial portion of its assets in cash, cash equivalents or other high quality short-term investments.

Temporary defensive investments generally may include short-term U.S. government securities, commercial paper, short-term bank time deposits, bankers' acceptances, repurchase agreements and money market fund shares (including shares of an affiliated money market fund). The investment manager also may invest in these types of securities or hold cash while looking for suitable investment opportunities, to maintain liquidity or to segregate on the Fund's books in connection with its derivative strategies, such as forward currency contracts or currency or interest rate futures positions. In these circumstances, the Fund may be unable to achieve its investment goal.

## Principal Risks

### Foreign Securities (non-U.S.)

Investing in foreign securities, including sovereign debt securities, typically involves more risks than investing in U.S. securities. Certain of these risks also may apply to securities of U.S. companies with significant foreign operations.

**Currency exchange rates.** Foreign securities may be issued and traded in foreign currencies. As a result, their market values in U.S. dollars may be affected by changes in exchange rates between such foreign currencies and the U.S. dollar, as well as between currencies of countries other than the U.S. For example, if the value of the U.S. dollar goes up compared to a foreign currency, an investment traded in that foreign currency will go down in value because it will be worth fewer U.S. dollars. The Fund accrues additional expenses when engaging in currency exchange transactions, and valuation of the Fund's foreign securities may be subject to greater risk because both the currency (relative to the U.S. dollar) and the security must be considered.

**Currency management strategies.** Currency management strategies may substantially change the Fund's exposure to currency exchange rates and could result in losses to the Fund if currencies do not perform as the investment manager expects. In addition, currency management strategies, to the extent that they reduce the Fund's exposure to currency risks, may also reduce the Fund's ability to benefit from favorable changes in currency exchange rates. There is no assurance that the investment manager's use of currency management strategies will benefit the Fund or that they will be, or can be, used at appropriate times. Furthermore, there may not be perfect correlation between the amount of exposure to a particular currency and the amount of

## FUND DETAILS

securities in the Fund's portfolio denominated in that currency. Investing in foreign currencies for purposes of gaining from projected changes in exchange rates, as opposed to hedging currency risks applicable to the Fund's holdings, further increases the Fund's exposure to foreign investment losses.

**Political and economic developments.** The political, economic and social policies or structures of some foreign countries may be less stable and more volatile than those in the United States. Investments in these countries may be subject to greater risks of internal and external conflicts, expropriation, nationalization of assets, foreign exchange controls (such as suspension of the ability to transfer currency from a given country), restrictions on removal of assets, political or social instability, military action or unrest, diplomatic developments, currency devaluations, foreign ownership limitations, and substantial, punitive or confiscatory tax increases. It is possible that a government may take over the assets or operations of a company or impose restrictions on the exchange or export of currency or other assets. Some countries also may have different legal systems that may make it difficult or expensive for the Fund to vote proxies, exercise shareholder rights, and pursue legal remedies with respect to its foreign investments. Diplomatic and political developments could affect the economies, industries, and securities and currency markets of the countries in which the Fund is invested. These developments include rapid and adverse political changes; social instability; regional conflicts; sanctions imposed by the United States, other nations or other governmental entities, including supranational entities; terrorism; and war. In addition, such developments could contribute to the devaluation of a country's currency, a downgrade in the credit ratings of issuers in such country, or a decline in the value and liquidity of securities of issuers in that country. An imposition of sanctions upon certain issuers in a country could result in an immediate freeze of that issuer's securities, impairing the ability of the Fund to buy, sell, receive or deliver those securities. These factors would affect the value of the Fund's investments and are extremely difficult, if not impossible, to predict and take into account with respect to the Fund's investments.

**Sovereign debt securities.** Sovereign debt securities are subject to various risks in addition to those relating to debt securities and foreign securities generally, including, but not limited to, the risk that a governmental entity may be unwilling or unable to pay interest and repay principal on its sovereign debt, or otherwise meet its obligations when due because of cash flow

problems, insufficient foreign reserves, the relative size of the debt service burden to the economy as a whole, the government's policy towards principal international lenders such as the International Monetary Fund, or the political considerations to which the government may be subject. Sovereign debtors also may be dependent on expected disbursements from other foreign governments or multinational agencies and the country's access to, or balance of, trade. If a sovereign debtor defaults (or threatens to default) on its sovereign debt obligations, the indebtedness may be restructured. Restructuring may include obtaining additional credit to finance outstanding obligations, reduction and rescheduling of payments of interest and principal, or negotiation of new or amended credit and security agreements. Unlike most corporate debt restructurings, the fees and expenses of financial and legal advisers to the creditors in connection with a restructuring may be borne by the holders of the sovereign debt securities instead of the sovereign entity itself. Some sovereign debtors have in the past been able to restructure their debt payments without the approval of some or all debt holders or to declare moratoria on payments, and similar occurrences may happen in the future.

In the event of a default on sovereign debt, the Fund may have limited legal recourse against the defaulting government entity. As a sovereign entity, the issuing government may be immune from lawsuits in the event of its failure or refusal to pay the obligations when due, and any rights the Fund may have may be restricted pursuant to the terms of applicable treaties with such sovereign entity. If a sovereign entity defaults, it may request additional time in which to pay or for further loans. There may be no legal process for collecting sovereign debt that a government does not pay or such legal process may be relatively more expensive, nor are there bankruptcy proceedings by which the Fund may collect in whole or in part on debt issued by a sovereign entity. In certain cases, remedies must be pursued in the courts located in the country of the defaulting sovereign entity itself, which may further limit the Fund's ability to obtain recourse.

**Trading practices.** Brokerage commissions, withholding taxes, custodial fees, and other fees generally are higher in foreign markets. The policies and procedures followed by foreign stock exchanges, currency markets, trading systems and brokers may differ from those applicable in the United States, with possibly negative consequences to the Fund. The procedures and rules governing foreign trading, settlement and custody (holding of the Fund's assets) also may result in losses or delays in payment, delivery or recovery of money or other property. Foreign



government supervision and regulation of foreign securities and currency markets and trading systems may be less than or different from government supervision in the United States, and may increase the Fund's regulatory and compliance burden and/or decrease the Fund's investor rights and protections.

**Availability of information.** Foreign issuers may not be subject to the same disclosure, accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and practices as U.S. issuers. Thus, there may be less information publicly available about foreign issuers than about most U.S. issuers. In addition, information provided by foreign issuers may be less timely or less reliable than information provided by U.S. issuers.

**Limited markets.** Certain foreign securities may be less liquid (harder to sell) and their prices may be more volatile than many U.S. securities. Illiquidity tends to be greater, and valuation of the Fund's foreign securities may be more difficult, due to the infrequent trading and/or delayed reporting of quotes and sales.

**Regional.** Adverse conditions in a certain region or country can adversely affect securities of issuers in other countries whose economies appear to be unrelated. To the extent that the Fund invests a significant portion of its assets in a specific geographic region or a particular country, the Fund will generally have more exposure to the specific regional or country economic risks. In the event of economic or political turmoil or a deterioration of diplomatic relations in a region or country where a substantial portion of the Fund's assets are invested, the Fund may experience substantial illiquidity or reduction in the value of the Fund's investments.

**Developing market countries.** The Fund's investments in securities of issuers in developing market countries are subject to all of the risks of foreign investing generally, and have additional heightened risks due to a lack of established legal, political, business and social frameworks to support securities markets. Some of the additional significant risks include:

- less social, political and economic stability;
- a higher possibility of the devaluation of a country's currency, a downgrade in the credit ratings of issuers in such country, or a decline in the value and liquidity of securities of issuers in that country if the United States, other nations or other governmental entities (including supranational entities) impose sanctions on issuers that limit or restrict foreign investment, the movement of assets or other economic activity in the country due to political, military or regional conflicts or due to terrorism or war;

- smaller securities markets with low or non-existent trading volume and greater illiquidity and price volatility;
- more restrictive national policies on foreign investment, including restrictions on investment in issuers or industries deemed sensitive to national interests;
- less transparent and established taxation policies;
- less developed regulatory or legal structures governing private and foreign investment or allowing for judicial redress for injury to private property, such as bankruptcy;
- less familiarity with a capital market structure or market-oriented economy and more widespread corruption and fraud;
- less financial sophistication, creditworthiness and/or resources possessed by, and less government regulation of, the financial institutions and issuers with which the Fund transacts;
- less government supervision and regulation of business and industry practices, stock exchanges, brokers and listed companies than in the U.S.;
- greater concentration in a few industries resulting in greater vulnerability to regional and global trade conditions;
- higher rates of inflation and more rapid and extreme fluctuations in inflation rates;
- greater sensitivity to interest rate changes;
- increased volatility in currency exchange rates and potential for currency devaluations and/or currency controls;
- greater debt burdens relative to the size of the economy;
- more delays in settling portfolio transactions and heightened risk of loss from share registration and custody practices; and
- less assurance that when favorable economic developments occur, they will not be slowed or reversed by unanticipated economic, political or social events in such countries.

Because of the above factors, the Fund's investments in developing market countries may be subject to greater price volatility and illiquidity than investments in developed markets.

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### Market

The market values of securities or other investments owned by the Fund will go up or down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably. Securities or other investments may decline in value due to factors affecting individual issuers, markets generally or sectors within the markets. The value of a security or other investment may go up or down due to general market conditions which are not specifically related to a particular issuer, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in interest rates or exchange rates, or adverse investor sentiment generally. The value may also go up or down due to factors that affect an individual issuer or a particular sector. During a general downturn in the securities markets, multiple asset classes may decline in value. When markets perform well, there can be no assurance that securities or other investments held by the Fund will participate in or otherwise benefit from the advance.

### Interest Rate

Interest rate changes can be sudden and unpredictable, and are influenced by a number of factors, including government policy, monetary policy, inflation expectations, perceptions of risk, and supply of and demand for bonds. Changes in government or central bank policy, including changes in tax policy or changes in a central bank's implementation of specific policy goals, may have a substantial impact on interest rates. There can be no guarantee that any particular government or central bank policy will be continued, discontinued or changed, nor that any such policy will have the desired effect on interest rates. Debt securities generally tend to lose market value when interest rates rise and increase in value when interest rates fall. A rise in interest rates also has the potential to cause investors to rapidly sell fixed income securities. A substantial increase in interest rates may also have an adverse impact on the liquidity of a security, especially those with longer maturities or durations. Securities with longer maturities or durations or lower coupons or that make little (or no) interest payments before maturity tend to be more sensitive to interest rate changes.

### Liquidity

Liquidity risk exists when the markets for particular securities or types of securities or other investments are or become relatively illiquid so that the Fund is unable, or it becomes more difficult for the Fund, to sell the security or other investment at the price at which the Fund has valued the security. Illiquidity may result from political,

economic or issuer specific events; supply/demand imbalances; changes in a specific market's size or structure, including the number of participants; or overall market disruptions. Securities or other investments with reduced liquidity or that become illiquid may involve greater risk than securities with more liquid markets. Market prices or quotations for illiquid securities may be volatile, and there may be large spreads between bid and ask prices. Reduced liquidity 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, which may arise or increase in response to a specific economic event or because the investment manager wishes to purchase particular investments or believes that a higher level of liquidity would be advantageous. An investment may become illiquid if the Fund and its affiliates receive material non-public information about the issuer or the investment. To the extent that the Fund and its affiliates hold a significant portion of an issuer's outstanding securities, the Fund may be subject to greater liquidity risk than if the issuer's securities were more widely held.

### Credit

The Fund could lose money on a debt security if the issuer or borrower is unable or fails to meet its obligations, including failing to make interest payments and/or to repay principal when due. Changes in an issuer's financial strength, the market's perception of the issuer's financial strength or an issuer's or security's credit rating, which reflects a third party's assessment of the credit risk presented by a particular issuer or security, may affect debt securities' values. The Fund may incur substantial losses on debt securities that are inaccurately perceived to present a different amount of credit risk by the market, the investment manager or the rating agencies than such securities actually do.

### High-Yield Debt Securities

High-yield debt securities (including loans) and unrated securities of similar credit quality (high-yield debt instruments or junk bonds) involve greater risk of a complete loss of the Fund's investment, or delays of interest and principal payments, than higher-quality debt securities or loans. Issuers of high-yield debt instruments are not as strong financially as those issuing securities of higher credit quality. High-yield debt instruments are generally considered predominantly speculative by the applicable rating agencies as these issuers are more likely to encounter financial difficulties because they may be more highly leveraged, or because of other considerations. In addition, high yield debt securities

generally are more vulnerable to changes in the relevant economy, such as a recession or a sustained period of rising interest rates, that could affect their ability to make interest and principal payments when due. If an issuer stops making interest and/or principal payments, payments on the securities may never resume. These instruments may be worthless and the Fund could lose its entire investment.

The prices of high-yield debt instruments generally fluctuate more than higher-quality securities. Prices are especially sensitive to developments affecting the issuer's business or operations and to changes in the ratings assigned by rating agencies. In addition, the entire high-yield debt market can experience sudden and sharp price swings due to changes in economic conditions, stock market activity, large sustained sales by major investors, a high-profile default, or other factors. Prices of corporate high-yield debt instruments often are closely linked with the company's stock prices and typically rise and fall in response to factors that affect stock prices.

High-yield debt instruments are generally less liquid than higher-quality securities. Many of these securities are not registered for sale under the federal securities laws and/or do not trade frequently. When they do trade, their prices may be significantly higher or lower than expected. At times, it may be difficult to sell these securities promptly at an acceptable price, which may limit the Fund's ability to sell securities in response to specific economic events or to meet redemption requests. As a result, certain high-yield debt instruments may pose greater illiquidity and valuation risks.

### **Derivative Instruments**

The performance of derivative instruments depends largely on the performance of an underlying instrument, such as a currency, security, interest rate or index, and such instruments often have risks similar to the underlying instrument, in addition to other risks. Derivative instruments involve costs and can create economic leverage in the Fund's portfolio, which may result in significant volatility and cause the Fund to participate in losses (as well as gains) in an amount that significantly exceeds the Fund's initial investment. Certain derivatives have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment. Other risks include illiquidity, mispricing or improper valuation of the derivative instrument, and imperfect correlation between the value of the derivative and the underlying instrument so that the Fund may not realize the intended benefits. Their successful use will usually depend on the investment manager's ability to accurately forecast

movements in the market relating to the underlying instrument. Should a market or markets, or prices of particular classes of investments move in an unexpected manner, especially in unusual or extreme market conditions, the Fund may not achieve the anticipated benefits of the transaction, and it may realize losses, which could be significant. If the investment manager is not successful in using such derivative instruments, the Fund's performance may be worse than if the investment manager did not use such derivative instruments at all. When a derivative is used for hedging, the change in value of the derivative instrument also may not correlate specifically with the currency, security, interest rate, index or other risk being hedged. There is also the risk, especially under extreme market conditions, that an instrument, which usually would operate as a hedge, provides no hedging benefits at all.

Use of these instruments could also result in a loss if the counterparty to the transaction does not perform as promised, including because of such counterparty's bankruptcy or insolvency. This risk is heightened with respect to over-the-counter (OTC) instruments, such as certain swap agreements, and may be greater during volatile market conditions. Other risks include the inability to close out a position because the trading market becomes illiquid (particularly in the OTC markets) or the availability of counterparties becomes limited for a period of time. In addition, the presence of speculators in a particular market could lead to price distortions. To the extent that the Fund is unable to close out a position because of market illiquidity, the Fund may not be able to prevent further losses of value in its derivatives holdings and the Fund's liquidity may be impaired to the extent that it has a substantial portion of its otherwise liquid assets marked as segregated to cover its obligations under such derivative instruments. Some derivatives can be particularly sensitive to changes in interest rates or other market prices. Investors should bear in mind that, while the Fund intends to use derivative strategies on a regular basis, it is not obligated to actively engage in these transactions, generally or in any particular kind of derivative, if the investment manager elects not to do so due to availability, cost or other factors.

Many swaps currently are, and others eventually are expected to be, required to be cleared through a central counterparty. Central clearing is designed to reduce counterparty credit risk and increase liquidity compared to OTC swaps, but it does not eliminate those risks completely. With cleared swaps, there is also a risk of loss by the Fund of its initial and variation margin deposits in the event of bankruptcy of the FCM with

## FUND DETAILS

which the Fund has an open position, or the central counterparty in a swap contract. With cleared swaps, the Fund may not be able to obtain as favorable terms as it would be able to negotiate for a bilateral, uncleared swap. In addition, an FCM may unilaterally amend the terms of its agreement with the Fund, which may include the imposition of position limits or additional margin requirements with respect to the Fund's investment in certain types of swaps. The regulation of cleared and uncleared swaps, as well as other derivatives, is a rapidly changing area of law and is subject to modification by government and judicial action. In addition, the SEC, Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) and the exchanges are authorized to take extraordinary actions in the event of a market emergency. It is not possible to predict fully the effects of current or future regulation.

The use of derivative strategies may also have a tax impact on the Fund. The timing and character of income, gains or losses from these strategies could impair the ability of the investment manager to use derivatives when it wishes to do so.

### **Inflation-Indexed Securities**

Inflation-indexed securities have a tendency to react to changes in real interest rates. Real interest rates represent nominal (stated) interest rates lowered by the anticipated effect of inflation. In general, the price of an inflation-indexed security decreases when real interest rates increase, and increases when real interest rates decrease. Interest payments on inflation-indexed securities will fluctuate as the principal and/or interest is adjusted for inflation and can be unpredictable. Any increase in the principal amount of an inflation-protected debt security will be considered taxable ordinary income, even though investors, such as the Fund, do not receive their principal until maturity.

### **Income**

The Fund's distributions to shareholders may decline when prevailing interest rates fall, when the Fund experiences defaults on debt securities it holds or when the Fund realizes a loss upon the sale of a debt security. The Fund's income generally declines during periods of falling benchmark interest rates because the Fund must reinvest the proceeds it receives from existing investments (upon their maturity, prepayment, amortization, sale, call, or buy-back) at a lower rate of interest or return.

### **Non-Diversification**

The Fund is a "non-diversified" fund. It generally invests a greater portion of its assets in the securities of one or more issuers and invests overall in a smaller number of issuers than a diversified fund. The Fund may be more sensitive to a single economic, business, political, regulatory or other occurrence than a more diversified fund might be, which may result in greater fluctuation in the value of the Fund's shares and a greater risk of loss.

### **Debt Securities Ratings**

The use of credit ratings in evaluating debt securities can involve certain risks, including the risk that the credit rating may not reflect the issuer's current financial condition or events since the security was last rated by a rating agency. Credit ratings may be influenced by conflicts of interest or based on historical data that no longer apply or that are no longer accurate.

### **Unrated Debt Securities**

Unrated debt securities determined by the investment manager to be of comparable credit quality to rated securities which the Fund may purchase may pay a higher interest rate than such rated debt securities and be subject to a greater risk of illiquidity or price changes. Less public information and independent credit analysis are typically available about unrated securities or issuers, and therefore they may be subject to greater risk of default.

### **Focus**

The greater the Fund's exposure to any single type of investment – including investment in a given industry, sector, region, country, issuer, or type of security – the greater the losses the Fund may experience upon any single economic, business, political, regulatory, or other occurrence. As a result, there may be more fluctuation in the price of the Fund's shares.

### **Cash Position**

To the extent that the Fund holds a large position in cash/cash equivalents (including money market funds) the Fund may lose opportunities to participate in market appreciation and may have lower returns than if the Fund made other investments. In such circumstances, the Fund may not achieve its investment goal.

### **Management**

The Fund is actively managed and could experience losses (realized and unrealized) if the investment manager's judgment about markets, interest rates or

the attractiveness, relative values, liquidity, or potential appreciation of particular investments made for the Fund's portfolio prove to be incorrect. There can be no guarantee that these techniques or the investment manager's investment decisions will produce the desired results. Additionally, legislative, regulatory, or tax developments may affect the investment techniques

available to the investment manager in connection with managing the Fund and may also adversely affect the ability of the Fund to achieve its investment goal.

More detailed information about the Fund and its policies and risks can be found in the Fund's SAI.

## Management

Franklin Advisers, Inc. (Advisers), One Franklin Parkway, San Mateo, California 94403-1906, is the Fund's investment manager.

The Fund is managed by the following dedicated professionals focused on investments of bonds issued by government and government agencies around the world:

### **Michael Hasenstab, Ph.D.**

Executive Vice President of Advisers

Dr. Hasenstab has been a lead portfolio manager of the Fund since 2001. He has primary responsibility for the investments of the Fund. Dr. Hasenstab has final authority over all aspects of the Fund's investment portfolio, including but not limited to, purchases and sales of individual securities, portfolio risk assessment, and the management of daily cash balances in accordance with anticipated investment management requirements. The degree to which he may perform these functions, and the nature of these functions, may change from time to time. Dr. Hasenstab first joined Franklin Templeton in 1995, rejoining again in 2001 after a three-year leave to obtain his Ph.D.

The Fund's SAI provides additional information about portfolio manager compensation, other accounts that they manage and their ownership of Fund shares.

The Fund pays Advisers a fee for managing the Fund's assets. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018, Advisers agreed to reduce its fees to reflect reduced services resulting from the Fund's investment in a Franklin Templeton money fund. The management fees before and after such waiver were 0.46% and 0.37%.

A discussion regarding the basis for the board of trustees approving the investment management contract of the Fund is available in the Fund's semiannual report to shareholders for the six-month period ended June 30.

### **Manager of Managers Structure**

The investment manager and the Trust have received an exemptive order from the SEC that allows the Fund to operate in a "manager of managers" structure whereby the investment manager can appoint and replace both wholly-owned and unaffiliated sub-advisors, and enter into, amend and terminate sub-advisory agreements with such sub-advisors, each subject to board approval but without obtaining prior shareholder approval (Manager of Managers Structure). The Fund will, however, inform shareholders of the hiring of any new sub-advisor within 90 days after the hiring. The SEC exemptive order provides the Fund with greater flexibility and efficiency by preventing the Fund from incurring the expense and delays associated with obtaining shareholder approval of such sub-advisory agreements.

### **Calvin Ho, Ph.D.**

Senior Vice President of Advisers

Dr. Ho has been a portfolio manager of the Fund since December 2018, providing research and advice on the purchases and sales of individual securities and portfolio risk assessment. He joined Franklin Templeton in 2005.

The use of the Manager of Managers Structure with respect to the Fund is subject to certain conditions that are set forth in the SEC exemptive order. Under the Manager of Managers Structure, the investment manager has the ultimate responsibility, subject to oversight by the Fund's board of trustees, to oversee sub-advisors and recommend their hiring, termination and replacement. The investment manager will also, subject to the review and approval of the Fund's board of trustees: set the Fund's overall investment strategy; evaluate, select and recommend sub-advisors to manage all or a portion of the Fund's assets; and implement procedures reasonably designed to ensure that each sub-advisor complies with the Fund's investment goal, policies and restrictions. Subject to review by the Fund's board of trustees, the investment manager will allocate and, when appropriate, reallocate the Fund's assets among sub-advisors and monitor and evaluate the sub-advisors' performance.

## Financial Highlights

This table presents the financial performance of Class 2 shares for the past five years or since inception. The table shows certain information on a single Fund share basis (per share performance). It also shows some key Fund statistics, such as total return (past performance) and expense ratios. Total return represents the annual change in value of a share assuming reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. This information has been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. Their report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the annual report, which is available upon request.

Class 2	Year Ended December 31,				
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
<b>Per share operating performance (for a share outstanding throughout the year)</b>					
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$16.51	\$16.25	\$15.80	\$17.99	\$18.60
Income from investment operations: <sup>a</sup>					
Net investment income <sup>b</sup>	0.81	0.76	0.56	0.46	0.52
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses)	(0.49)	(0.45)	(0.10)	(1.17)	(0.17)
Total from investment operations	0.32	0.31	0.46	(0.71)	0.35
Less distributions from:					
Net investment income and net foreign currency gains	—	—	—	(1.39)	(0.96)
Net realized gains	—	(0.05)	(0.01)	(0.09)	—
Total distributions	—	(0.05)	(0.01)	(1.48)	(0.96)
Redemption fees	—	—	—	—	— <sup>f</sup>
<b>Net asset value, end of year</b>	<b>\$16.83</b>	<b>\$16.51</b>	<b>\$16.25</b>	<b>\$15.80</b>	<b>\$17.99</b>
Total return <sup>c</sup>	1.94%	1.93%	2.94%	(4.30%)	1.83%
<b>Ratios to average net assets</b>					
Expenses before waiver and payments by affiliates and expense reduction	0.81%	0.78%	0.78%	0.77%	0.76%
Expenses net of waiver and payments by affiliates	0.72%	0.71%	0.73%	0.77% <sup>e</sup>	0.76%
Expenses net of waiver and payments by affiliates and expense reduction	0.70%	0.71% <sup>d</sup>	0.73% <sup>d</sup>	0.77% <sup>d</sup>	0.76% <sup>d</sup>
Net investment income	4.84%	4.56%	3.63%	2.74%	2.83%
<b>Supplemental data</b>					
Net assets, end of year (000's)	\$2,544,900	\$2,730,081	\$2,812,535	\$2,971,667	\$3,177,638
Portfolio turnover rate	18.22%	37.97%	59.00%	51.58%	39.14%

a. The amount shown for a share outstanding throughout the period may not correlate with the Statement of Operations in the annual report for the period due to the timing of sales and repurchases of the Fund's shares in relation to income earned and/or fluctuating fair value of the investments of the Fund.

b. Based on average daily shares outstanding.

c. Total return does not include fees, charges or expenses imposed by the variable annuity and life insurance contracts for which Franklin Templeton Variable Insurance Products Trust serves as an underlying investment vehicle.

d. Benefit of expense reduction rounds to less than 0.01%.

e. Benefit of waiver and payments by affiliates rounds to less than 0.01%.

f. Amount rounds to less than \$0.01 per share.

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## Additional Information, All Funds

### Dealer Compensation

Franklin Templeton Distributors, Inc. (Distributors) and/or its affiliates may provide financial support to securities dealers that sell shares of Franklin Templeton funds, or participate in the offering of variable insurance products that invest in the Trust (VIP Qualifying Dealers); such financial support may be made by payments from Distributors' and/or its affiliates' resources, including from Distributors' retention of underwriting concessions and, in the case of Rule 12b-1 share classes, from payments to Distributors under such plans.

Distributors makes these payments in connection with VIP Qualifying Dealers' efforts to educate financial advisors about our funds. A number of factors will be considered in determining payments, including such dealer's sales, assets and redemption rates, and the quality of the dealer's relationship with Distributors. Distributors will, on an annual basis, determine the advisability of continuing these payments. To the extent permitted by SEC and FINRA rules and other applicable laws and regulations, Distributors and/or its affiliates may pay or allow other promotional incentives or payments to dealers. Sale of shares of the Funds, as well as shares of other Franklin Templeton funds, is not considered a factor in the selection of securities dealers to execute the Funds' portfolio transactions. Accordingly, the allocation of portfolio transactions for execution by VIP Qualifying Dealers is not considered marketing support payments.

You can find further details in the SAI about the payments made by Distributors and/or its affiliates and the services provided by your VIP Qualifying Dealer. While your insurance company's fees and charges are generally disclosed in the insurance contract prospectus, your VIP Qualifying Dealer may charge you additional fees or commissions other than those disclosed in this prospectus. You can ask your insurance company and VIP Qualifying Dealer for information about any payments they receive from Distributors and/or its affiliates and any services they provide, as well as about fees and/or commissions they charge. These payments and other fees and charges are not reflected in the fee table included in this prospectus. Additional disclosure may be included in the insurance contract prospectus.

### Portfolio Holdings

A description of the Trust's policies and procedures regarding the release of portfolio holdings information for each Fund of the Trust (collectively, the "Fund") is also available in the Trust's SAI. Portfolio holdings information can be viewed online at [franklintempleton.com](http://franklintempleton.com).

### Statements and Reports

Contract Owners should receive financial reports for the Fund related to their Contract from the sponsoring Insurer every six months.

### Administrative Services

Franklin Templeton Services, LLC (FT Services) has an agreement with the investment managers to provide certain administrative services and facilities for each Fund.

FT Services, on behalf of itself and other affiliates of the managers, makes certain payments to insurance companies out of its own resources for certain services provided to the Funds by insurance companies relating to their investment in the Funds on behalf of variable contract owners. See the SAI for more information.

## Distributions and Taxes

### Income and Capital Gains Distributions

As a regulated investment company, a Fund generally pays no federal income tax on the income and gains it distributes to its shareholders. Each Fund (sometimes referred to as "the Fund") intends to pay income dividends at least annually from its net investment income. Capital gains, if any, may be paid at least annually. The Fund may distribute income dividends and capital gains more frequently, if necessary, in order to reduce or eliminate federal excise or income taxes on the Fund. The amount of any distribution will vary, and there is no guarantee the Fund will pay either income dividends or capital gain distributions.

### Tax Considerations

The Trust consists of multiple Funds each of which for federal income tax purposes is treated separately from any other. Each Fund expects to qualify as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). Accordingly, the assets, income and distributions of the Fund are considered separately for purposes of determining whether the Fund qualifies as a regulated

investment company. If the Fund so qualifies, it will not be subject to federal income tax on the portion of its income and gains that it distributes to shareholders. Additionally, each Fund intends to comply with the diversification requirements imposed by Section 817(h) of the Code.

For federal income tax purposes, the insurance companies and their separate accounts are treated as the owners of the shares of the Fund selected as an investment option rather than the purchasers of a variable annuity contract or variable life insurance policy (variable contracts). In light of the tax-favored status of life insurance company separate accounts, there should be no adverse federal income tax consequences to them as a result of their buying, holding, exchanging or selling Fund shares or on their receipt of Fund distributions, subject to applicable limitations under the Code.

Insurance companies offer variable annuity and variable life insurance products to investors including pension plans (Contracts), through separate accounts (Insurers). When shares of the Fund are investment options of Contracts, separate accounts, and not the owners of the Contracts including group contract and pension plan certificate holders (Contract Owners), are generally the shareholders of the Fund. As a result, it is anticipated that any income dividends or capital gains distributions paid by the Fund will be exempt from current taxation to the purchaser of such variable contracts if left to accumulate within a variable contract. Withdrawals from such contracts may be subject to ordinary income tax and, if such withdrawals are made before age 59 ½, a 10% penalty tax. For more information on taxes, please refer to the accompanying prospectus of the annuity or life insurance program through which shares of the Fund are underlying investment options.

**Other tax information.** This discussion of “Distributions and Taxes” is for general information only and is not tax advice. You should consult your own tax advisor regarding your particular circumstances and about any federal, state or local tax consequences before making an investment in a variable contract or the Fund.

## Fund Account Information

### Buying Shares

Insurance companies offer variable annuity and variable life insurance products to investors including pension plans (Contracts), through separate accounts (Insurers). When shares of the Fund are investment options of Contracts, separate accounts, and not the owners of the Contracts including group contract and pension plan

certificate holders (Contract Owners), are generally the shareholders of the Fund. Shares of the Fund may also be purchased by other mutual funds (funds of funds).

Shares of the Fund are sold at net asset value (NAV). When sold in connection with Contracts, the Fund corresponds with the investment options offered by the Insurer to Contract Owners. The board of trustees monitors the Fund for the existence of any material irreconcilable conflicts of interest between different types of their separate account investors. If there were any such conflicts, the board of trustees will determine what action, if any, shall be taken in response. Please refer to the accompanying contract prospectus for information on how to select the Fund as an investment option.

Contract Owners' payments will be allocated by the insurance company separate account to sub-accounts that purchase shares of the Fund corresponding with the sub-account chosen by the Contract Owner, and are subject to any limits or conditions in the contract. Requests to buy shares are processed at the NAV next calculated after we or our designees receive the request in proper form. Please refer to your Contract prospectus or other disclosure document for further information. The Fund does not issue share certificates.

### Selling Shares

An Insurer that holds shares of the Fund in connection with a Contract sells shares of the Fund to make benefit or surrender payments or to execute exchanges (transfers) between investment options under the terms of the Contract.

### Exchanging Shares

Contract Owners may exchange interests in sub-accounts of an insurance company separate account that corresponds with shares of any one class or Fund, for interests in sub-accounts that correspond with shares of other classes or Funds, subject to the terms and any specific limitations on the exchange (or “transfer”) privilege described in the Contract prospectus.

Frequent exchanges or excessive trading can harm performance and interfere with Fund portfolio management or operations and increase Fund costs. The Funds discourage short-term or excessive trading and may seek to restrict or reject such trading (please see “Fund Account Information - Market Timing Trading Policy,” below).

### Market Timing Trading Policy

The board of trustees has adopted the following policies and procedures with respect to market timing (Market Timing Trading Policy):

**Market timing generally.** The Fund discourages and does not intend to accommodate short-term or frequent purchases and redemptions of fund shares, often referred to as “market timing,” and asks its Fund of Fund investors and participating Insurers for their cooperation in trying to discourage such activity in their separate accounts by Contract Owners and their financial advisors. The Fund intends to seek to restrict or reject such trading or take other action, as described below, if in the judgment of the Fund manager or transfer agent such trading may interfere with the efficient management of the Fund’s portfolio, may materially increase the Fund’s transaction costs, administrative costs or taxes, or may otherwise be detrimental to the interests of the Fund and its shareholders.

**Market timing consequences.** If information regarding trading activity in the Fund or in any other Franklin Templeton fund or non-Franklin Templeton fund is brought to the attention of the Fund’s investment manager or transfer agent and based on that information the Fund or its investment manager or transfer agent in their sole discretion conclude that such trading may be detrimental to the Fund as described in this Market Timing Trading Policy, the Fund may temporarily or permanently bar future purchases into the Fund or, alternatively, may limit the amount, number or frequency of any future purchases and/or the method by which an Insurer or a Fund of Funds may request future purchases and redemptions (including purchases and/or redemptions by an exchange or transfer between the Fund and any other mutual fund). In determining what actions should be taken, the Fund’s transfer agent may consider a variety of factors, including the potential impact of such remedial actions on the Fund or its shareholders. If the Fund is a “fund of funds,” the Fund’s transfer agent may take into account the impact of the trading activity and of any proposed remedial action on both the Fund and the underlying funds in which the Fund invests.

In considering trading activity, the Fund may consider, among other factors, trading history both directly and, if known, through financial intermediaries, in the Fund, in other Franklin Templeton funds, in non-Franklin Templeton mutual funds, or in accounts under common control or ownership.

**Market timing through Insurers.** *As a Contract Owner you are also subject to this policy.* An Insurer’s order for purchases and/or redemptions pursuant to a Contract Owner’s instructions (including purchases and/or redemptions by an exchange or transfer between the Fund and any mutual fund) are submitted pursuant to aggregated orders (Aggregated Orders). A fund of fund’s order for purchases and/or redemptions pursuant to its investors’ instructions are also submitted pursuant to Aggregated Orders. While the Fund will encourage Insurers and funds of funds to apply the Fund’s Market Timing Trading Policy to their investors, the Fund is limited in its ability to monitor the trading activity or enforce the Fund’s Market Timing Trading Policy because Insurers and funds of funds have the relationships with, and are responsible for maintaining the account records of, the individual investors. For example, should it occur, the Fund may not be able to detect market timing that may be facilitated by financial intermediaries or made difficult to identify in the Aggregated Orders used by Insurers and Fund of Fund investors.

Therefore, the Fund or its agent selectively monitor the Aggregated Orders used by Insurers and Fund of Fund investors for purchases, exchanges and redemptions in respect of all their investors and seek the cooperation of Insurers and Fund of Fund investors to apply the Fund’s Market Timing Trading Policy. There may be legal and technological limitations on the ability of an Insurer or Fund of Fund to impose trading restrictions and to apply the Fund’s Market Timing Trading Policy to their investors through such methods as implementing short-term trading limitations or restrictions, assessing the Fund’s redemption fee (if applicable) and monitoring trading activity for what might be market timing. As a result, the Fund may not be able to determine whether trading by Insurers or funds of funds in respect of their investors is contrary to the Fund’s Market Timing Trading Policy.

**Risks from market timers.** Depending on various factors, including the size of the Fund, the amount of assets the portfolio manager typically maintains in cash or cash equivalents and the dollar amount and number and frequency of trades and the types of securities in which the Fund typically invests, short-term or frequent trading may interfere with the efficient management of the Fund’s portfolio, increase the Fund’s transaction costs, administrative costs and taxes and/or impact Fund performance.

In addition, if the nature of the Fund’s portfolio holdings exposes the Fund to “arbitrage market timers,” the value of the Fund’s shares may be diluted if redeeming shareholders receive proceeds (and buying shareholders

receive shares) based upon net asset values which do not reflect appropriate fair value prices. Arbitrage market timing occurs when an investor seeks to take advantage of the possible delay between the change in the value of a mutual fund's portfolio holdings and the reflection of the change in the fund's net asset value per share. A fund that invests significantly in foreign securities may be particularly vulnerable to arbitrage market timing. Arbitrage market timing in foreign investments may occur because of time zone differences between the foreign markets on which the Fund's international portfolio securities trade and the time as of which the Fund's NAV is calculated. Arbitrage market timers may purchase shares of the Fund based on events occurring after foreign market closing prices are established, but before calculation of the Fund's NAV. One of the objectives of the Trust's fair value pricing procedures is to minimize the possibilities of this type of arbitrage market timing (please see "Fund Account Information - Valuation - Foreign Securities – Potential Impact of Time Zones and Market Holidays").

Since the Fund may invest significantly in securities that are, or may be, restricted, unlisted, traded infrequently, thinly traded, or relatively illiquid (relatively illiquid securities), the Fund may be particularly vulnerable to arbitrage market timing. An arbitrage market timer may seek to take advantage of a possible differential between the last available market prices for one or more of these relatively illiquid securities that are used to calculate the Fund's net asset value and the latest indications of market values for those securities. One of the objectives of the Fund's fair value pricing procedures is to minimize the possibilities of this type of arbitrage market timing (please see "Fund Account Information - Fair Valuation – Individual Securities" under the heading "Fund Account Policies", below).

The Fund is currently using several methods to reduce the risk of market timing. These methods include:

- seeking the cooperation of Insurers and funds of funds to assist the Fund in identifying potential market timing activity;
- committing staff to selectively review on a continuing basis recent trading activity in order to identify trading activity that may be contrary to the Fund's Market Timing Trading Policy;
- monitoring potential price differentials following the close of trading in foreign markets to determine whether the application of fair value pricing procedures is warranted; and

- seeking the cooperation of financial intermediaries to assist the Fund in identifying market timing activity.

Though these methods involve judgments that are inherently subjective and involve some selectivity in their application, the Fund seeks to make judgments and applications that are consistent with the interests of the Fund's shareholders. There is no assurance that the Fund or its agents will gain access to any or all information necessary to detect market timing in Insurers' separate accounts. While the Fund will seek to take actions (directly and with the assistance of Insurers) that will detect market timing, it cannot represent that such trading activity can be minimized or completely eliminated.

**Revocation of market timing trades.** Transactions placed in violation of a Fund's Market Timing Trading Policy or exchange limit guidelines are not necessarily deemed accepted by the Fund and may be cancelled or revoked by the Fund, in full or in part, as soon as practicable following receipt by the Fund and prompt inquiry of the intermediary.

#### **Involuntary Redemptions**

The Fund reserves the right to close an account (and involuntarily redeem any investment) if it is deemed to have engaged in activities that are illegal (such as late trading) or otherwise believed to be detrimental to the Fund (such as market timing), to the fullest extent permitted by law and consistent with the best interests of the Fund and its shareholders. Thus, for example, if upon inquiry the Fund and insurance company identify a contract owner that has engaged in late trading or market timing activities, the Fund may advise the insurance company that it will not accept future investments, or is redeeming any investment related to that contract owner. Involuntary redemptions may be in cash or in kind.

#### **Fund Account Policies**

**CALCULATING SHARE PRICE** When they buy and sell shares, the Fund's shareholders pay and receive the net asset value (NAV) per share.

The value of a mutual fund is determined by deducting the fund's liabilities from the total assets of the portfolio. The NAV per share of a class of the Fund is determined by dividing the net asset value of the Fund's share class by the applicable number of shares outstanding of that share class. The Fund's NAV does not include any fee or sales charge imposed by variable insurance contracts for which the Fund is an investment option or funds of

funds that purchase shares of the Fund. Investors should consult the contract prospectus, disclosure document or Fund of Funds prospectus for more information.

The Fund calculates the NAV per share each business day as of 1 p.m. Pacific time or the regularly scheduled close of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), whichever is earlier. The Fund does not calculate the NAV on days the NYSE is closed for trading, which include New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, President's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. If the NYSE has a scheduled early close, the Fund's share price would be determined as of the time of the close of the NYSE. If, due to weather or other special or unexpected circumstances, the NYSE has an unscheduled early close on a day that it has opened for business, the Fund reserves the right to consider that day as a regular business day and accept purchase and redemption orders and calculate its share price as of the normally scheduled close of regular trading on the NYSE.

When determining the NAV, the Fund values cash and receivables at their realizable amounts, and records interest as accrued and dividends on the ex-dividend date. The Fund generally utilizes two independent pricing services to assist in determining a current market value for each security. If market quotations are readily available for portfolio securities listed on a securities exchange (including exchange-traded funds), the Fund values those securities at the last quoted sale price or the official closing price of the day, respectively, or, if there is no reported sale, within the range of the most recent quoted bid and ask prices. The Fund values over-the-counter portfolio securities within the range of the most recent bid and ask prices. If portfolio securities trade both in the over-the-counter market and on a stock exchange, the Fund values them according to the broadest and most representative market. Prices received by the Fund for securities may be based on institutional "round lot" sizes, but the Fund may hold smaller, "odd lot" sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than round lots.

Generally, trading in corporate bonds, U.S. government securities and money market instruments is substantially completed each day at various times before 1 p.m. Pacific time. The value of these securities used in computing the NAV is determined as of such times. Occasionally, events affecting the values of these securities may occur between the times at which they are determined and 1:00 p.m. Pacific time that will not be reflected in the computation of the NAV. The Fund relies on third party pricing vendors to provide evaluated prices that reflect current fair market value at 1 p.m. Pacific time.

To the extent that a Fund is invested in one or more open-end investment management companies (mutual funds), the Fund values shares of a mutual fund at the mutual fund's last determined NAV.

**FAIR VALUATION - INDIVIDUAL SECURITIES** Since the Fund may invest in securities that are restricted, unlisted, traded infrequently, thinly traded, or relatively illiquid, there is the possibility of a differential between the last available market prices for one or more of those securities and the latest indications of market values for those securities. The Fund has procedures, approved by the board of trustees, to determine the fair value of individual securities and other assets for which market prices are not readily available (such as certain restricted or unlisted securities and private placements) or which may not be reliably priced (such as in the case of trade suspensions or halts, price movement limits set by certain foreign markets, and thinly traded or illiquid securities). Some methods for valuing these securities may include: fundamental analysis (earnings multiple, etc.), matrix pricing, discounts from market prices of similar securities, or discounts applied due to the nature and duration of restrictions on the disposition of the securities. The board of trustees oversees the application of fair value pricing procedures.

The application of fair value pricing procedures represents a good faith determination based upon specifically applied procedures. There can be no assurance that the Funds could obtain the fair value assigned to a security if they were able to sell the security at approximately the time at which a Fund determines its NAV per share.

**SECURITY VALUATION - U.S. PASS-THROUGH SECURITIES, CMO, ABS, MBS** Mortgage pass-through securities (such as Ginnie Mae, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac), other mortgage-backed securities (MBS), collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs) and asset-backed securities (ABS), generally trade in the over-the-counter market rather than on a securities exchange. The Fund may value these portfolio securities by utilizing quotations from bond dealers, information with respect to bond and note transactions and may rely on independent pricing services. The Fund's pricing services use valuation models or matrix pricing to determine current value. In general, they use information with respect to comparable bond and note transactions, quotations from bond dealers or by reference to other securities that are considered comparable in such characteristics as rating, interest rate, maturity date, option adjusted spread

models, prepayment projections, interest rate spreads and yield curves. Matrix pricing is considered a form of fair value pricing.

**SECURITY VALUATION - CORPORATE DEBT**

**SECURITIES** Corporate debt securities generally trade in the over-the-counter market rather than on a securities exchange. The Fund may value these portfolio securities by utilizing quotations from bond dealers, information with respect to bond and note transactions and may rely on independent pricing services to assist in determining a current market value for each security. The Fund's pricing services uses independent quotations from bond dealers and bond market activity to determine current value.

**SECURITY VALUATION - SENIOR SECURED**

**CORPORATE LOANS** Senior secured corporate loans with floating or variable interest rates generally trade in the over-the-counter market rather than on a securities exchange. The Fund may value these portfolio securities by utilizing quotations from loan dealers and other financial institutions, information with respect to bond and note transactions and may rely on independent pricing services to assist in determining a current market value for each security. These pricing services may utilize independent market quotations from loan dealers or financial institutions and may incorporate valuation methodologies that incorporate multiple bond characteristics. These characteristics may include dealer quotes, issuer type, coupon, maturity, weighted average maturity, interest rate spreads and yield curves, cash flow and credit risk/quality analysis.

**SECURITY VALUATION – MUNICIPAL SECURITIES – MATRIX PRICING (FAIR VALUATION)**

Municipal securities generally trade in the over-the-counter market rather than on a securities exchange. The Fund's pricing services use valuation models or matrix pricing to determine current value. In general, they use information with respect to comparable bond and note transactions, quotations from bond dealers or by reference to other securities that are considered comparable in such characteristics as rating, interest rate and maturity date. Matrix pricing is considered a form of fair value pricing.

**SECURITY VALUATION - OPTIONS** The Fund values traded call options at their market price as determined above. The current market value of any option the Fund holds is its last sale price on the relevant exchange before the Fund values its assets. If there are no sales that day or if the last sale price is outside the bid and ask prices, the Fund values options within the range of the current closing bid and ask prices if the Fund believes the valuation fairly reflects the contract's market value.

**VALUATION - FOREIGN SECURITIES -**

**COMPUTATION OF U.S. EQUIVALENT VALUE** The Fund generally determines the value of a foreign security as of the close of trading on the foreign stock exchange on which the security is primarily traded, or as of 1 p.m. Pacific time, if earlier. The value is then converted into its U.S. dollar equivalent at the foreign exchange rate in effect at 1 p.m. Pacific time on the day that the value of the foreign security is determined. If no sale is reported at that time, the foreign security will be valued within the range of the most recent quoted bid and ask prices. Occasionally events (such as repatriation limits or restrictions) may impact the availability or reliability of foreign exchange rates used to convert the U.S. dollar equivalent value. If such an event occurs, the foreign exchange rate will be valued at fair value using procedures established and approved by the board of trustees.

**VALUATION – FOREIGN SECURITIES – POTENTIAL IMPACT OF TIME ZONES AND MARKET**

**HOLIDAYS** Trading in securities on foreign securities stock exchanges and over-the-counter markets, such as those in Europe and Asia, may be completed before 1 p.m. Pacific time on each day that the Fund is open. Occasionally, events occur between the time at which trading in a foreign security is completed and 1 p.m. Pacific time that might call into question the availability (including the reliability) of the value of a foreign portfolio security held by the Fund. As a result, the Fund may be susceptible to what is referred to as "time zone arbitrage." Certain investors in the Fund may seek to take advantage of discrepancies in the value of the Fund's portfolio securities as determined by the foreign market at its close and the latest indications of value attributable to the portfolio securities at the time the Fund's NAV is computed. Trading by these investors, often referred to as "arbitrage market timers," may dilute the value of the Fund's shares, if such discrepancies in security values actually exist. To attempt to minimize the possibilities for time zone arbitrage, and in accordance with procedures established and approved by the board of trustees, the investment managers monitor price movements following the close of trading in foreign stock markets through a series of country specific market proxies (such as baskets of American Depositary Receipts (ADRs), futures contracts and exchange-traded funds).

These price movements are measured against established trigger thresholds for each specific market proxy to assist in determining if an event has occurred that might call into question the availability (including the reliability) of the values of foreign securities between

the times at which they are determined and the time of the NAV calculation (1:00 p.m. Pacific time). If such an event occurs, the foreign securities may be valued using fair value procedures established and approved by the board of trustees. In certain circumstances these procedures include the use of independent pricing services. The intended effect of applying fair value pricing is to compute an NAV that accurately reflects the value of a Fund's portfolio at the time that the NAV is calculated, to discourage potential arbitrage market timing in Fund shares, to mitigate the dilutive impact of such attempted arbitrage market timing and to be fair to purchasing, redeeming and existing shareholders. However, the application of fair value pricing procedures may, on occasion, worsen rather than mitigate the potential dilutive impact of shareholder trading.

In addition, trading in foreign portfolio securities generally, or in securities markets in a particular country or countries, may not take place on every Fund business day. Furthermore, trading takes place in various foreign markets on days that are not business days for the Fund, and on which the Fund's NAV is not calculated (in which case, the net asset value of the Fund's shares may change on days when shareholders will not be able to purchase or redeem Fund shares). Thus, the calculation of the Fund's NAV does not take place contemporaneously with the determination of the prices of many of the foreign portfolio securities used in the calculation. If events affecting the last determined values of these foreign securities occur (determined through the monitoring process described above), the securities will be valued at fair value determined in good faith in accordance with the Fund's fair value procedures established and approved by the board of trustees.

**SHARE CLASSES** Class 1, Class 2, Class 4 and Class 5 shares of the Funds are identical except that Class 2, Class 4 and Class 5 each have a distribution plan or "rule 12b-1" plan, as described below for Class 2 shares and in their respective prospectuses for Class 4 and Class 5 shares.

Subject to applicable law, the board of trustees may from time to time, without the approval, vote or consent of shareholders of the Fund or any class, combine, merge or otherwise consolidate the shares of two or more classes of shares of the Fund with and/or into a single class of shares of the Fund, with such designation, preference, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications, terms and conditions of redemption and other characteristics as the board of trustees may determine. Such transactions may be effected through

share-for-share exchanges, transfers or sales of assets, shareholder in-kind redemptions and purchases, exchange offers, or any other method approved by the board of trustees.

**Distribution and service (12b-1) fees** Class 2 has a distribution plan, sometimes known as a rule 12b-1 plan, that allows the Fund to pay distribution fees to those who sell and distribute Class 2 shares and provide services to shareholders and Contract Owners. Because these fees are paid out of Class 2's assets on an on-going basis, over time these fees will increase the cost of an investment, and may cost you more than paying other types of sales charges. While the maximum amount payable under most Funds' Class 2 rule 12b-1 plan is 0.35% per year of the Fund's Class 2 average daily net assets, the board of trustees has set the current rate at 0.25%. However, Franklin Strategic Income VIP Fund, Templeton Developing Markets VIP Fund, Templeton Foreign VIP Fund and Templeton Global Bond VIP Fund each have a maximum rule 12b-1 plan fee of 0.25% per year. A portion of the fees payable to Franklin Templeton Distributors, Inc. (Distributors) or others under the rule 12b-1 plan may be retained by Distributors for distribution expenses.

**REDEMPTIONS** Typically, the Fund uses cash and cash equivalents held in its portfolio or sells portfolio assets to meet all redemption needs. In unusual circumstances or under stressed market conditions, the Fund may use other methods to meet redemptions, such as the use of lines of credit or interfund lending in reliance on exemptive relief from the SEC.

**ADDITIONAL POLICIES** Please note that the Fund maintains additional policies and reserves certain rights, including:

- The Fund may restrict, reject or cancel any purchase orders, including an exchange request.
- Typically, redemptions are processed by the next business day provided the redemption request is received in proper form and good order, but may take up to seven days to be processed if making immediate payment would adversely affect the Fund or there is another cause for delay (for example, if you sell shares recently purchased, proceeds may be delayed until your check, draft or wire/electronic funds transfer has cleared).
- At any time, the Fund may establish or change investment minimums.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, ALL FUNDS

- The Fund may make material changes to or discontinue the exchange privilege on 60 days' notice to insurance company or Fund of Fund shareholders, or as otherwise provided by law.
- Purchases of shares of the Fund (including the purchase side of an exchange) may be made only when such shares are eligible for sale in the appropriate state or jurisdiction.
- In unusual circumstances, we may temporarily suspend redemptions or postpone the payment of proceeds, as allowed by federal securities laws.
- For redemptions over a certain amount, the Fund may pay redemption proceeds in securities or other assets rather than cash if the investment manager determines it is in the best interest of the Fund, consistent with

applicable law. Investors should expect to incur transaction costs upon the disposition of the securities received in the distribution.

- To permit their investors to obtain the current price, participating insurance companies and funds of funds are responsible for transmitting all orders to the Fund promptly.

### **Questions**

More detailed information about the Trust and the Fund's account policies can be found in the Fund's SAI. If you have any questions about the Fund, you can write to us at One Franklin Parkway, P.O. Box 7777, San Mateo, CA 94403-7777. You can also call us at 1-800/362-6243 (a toll-free number). For your protection and to help ensure we provide you with quality service, all calls may be monitored or recorded.



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### **For More Information**

**For information on the Fund, including a free copy of the Fund's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, and the Fund's Annual and Semiannual Reports, contact your financial advisor or the insurance company offering your Contract.**

Shares of the insurance funds of Franklin Templeton Variable Insurance Products Trust (FTVIPT) are not offered to the public; they are offered and sold only to: (1) insurance company separate accounts to serve as the underlying investment vehicles for variable contracts; (2) certain qualified plans; and (3) other mutual funds (funds of funds).

Not all Funds and classes are available in all Contracts. For information on the terms of investment in a Contract, please consult the Contract prospectus that accompanies this Fund prospectus.

You can learn more about the Fund in the following documents:

#### **Annual/Semiannual Fund Reports to Shareholders**

Include a discussion of recent market conditions and Fund strategies that significantly affected Fund performance during its last fiscal year, financial statements, detailed performance information, portfolio holdings and, in the annual report only, the Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm's report.

#### **Statement of Additional Information (SAI)**

Contains more information about the Fund, its investments, policies, and risks. It is incorporated by reference into (is legally a part of) this prospectus.

Reports and other information about the Fund are available on the EDGAR database on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov), and copies of this information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following e-mail address: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov).

