

PROSPECTUS

# FRANKLIN TEMPLETON VARIABLE INSURANCE PRODUCTS TRUST

May 1, 2021



FRANKLIN  
TEMPLETON

## CLASS 5

### Franklin VoISmart Allocation 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.



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Franklin VolSmart Allocation VIP Fund . . . . . FVA-S1

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## Investment Goal

Total return (including income and capital gains) while seeking to manage volatility.

## 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 5
Management fees	0.80%
Distribution and service (12b-1) fees	0.15%
Other expenses	0.08%
Acquired fund fees and expenses <sup>1</sup>	0.12%
Total annual Fund operating expenses <sup>1</sup>	1.15%
Fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement <sup>2</sup>	-0.23%
<b>Total annual Fund operating expenses after fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement<sup>1,2</sup></b>	<b>0.92%</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 to waive or assume certain expenses so that common expenses of the Fund (excluding Rule 12b-1 fees, acquired fund fees and expenses and certain non-routine expenses) do not exceed 0.65% until April 30, 2022. During the term, this fee waiver and expense reimbursement agreement may not be terminated or amended without approval of the board of trustees except to add series and classes, to reflect the extension of termination dates or to lower the cap on Fund's fees and expenses (which would result in lower fees for shareholders).

### 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 5	\$94	\$343	\$612	\$1,384

## 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 69.19% of the average value of its portfolio.

## Principal Investment Strategies

Under normal market conditions, the Fund seeks to achieve its investment goal by allocating its assets across certain asset classes, sectors and strategies in an attempt to produce a diversified portfolio that will generate returns while minimizing the expected volatility of the Fund's returns so that volatility does not exceed a target of 10% per year (volatility within the 10% target is referred to as "Target Volatility"). Managing the Fund to remain within its Target Volatility is designed to reduce the potential dramatic and rapid price swings that could be experienced by the Fund's "core portfolio." The Fund's assets are primarily invested in its "core portfolio," which is principally comprised of various U.S. equity and fixed income investments and strategies including investments in other mutual funds and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) that provide exposure to such investments and strategies, as described in more detail below. The Fund's investment manager, Franklin Advisers, Inc. (Advisers), allocates the Fund's assets among the strategies and investments in the core portfolio to diversify the assets of the Fund and to reduce the Fund's risk of being significantly impacted by changes in a specific asset class.

In addition, Advisers employs an additional strategy to manage the Fund's risk exposure to market volatility. Advisers employs a volatility management strategy, which is designed to manage the expected volatility of the Fund's returns so that volatility remains within the Fund's Target Volatility. In employing this strategy, Advisers measures the Fund's expected volatility and utilize certain derivative instruments (primarily futures contracts on

## FUND SUMMARY

indices) to adjust the Fund's expected volatility to within the Target Volatility, as described in more detail below. There is no guarantee that the Fund will stay within its Target Volatility.

**There is no guarantee that the Fund's volatility management strategy will be successful. The Fund's Target Volatility is not a total return performance target – the Fund does not expect, nor does it represent, that its total return performance will be within any specified range. It is possible that the Fund could stay within its Target Volatility while having negative performance returns. Also, efforts to manage the Fund's volatility can be expected to limit the Fund's gains in rising markets, may expose the Fund to costs to which it would otherwise not have been exposed, and if unsuccessful may result in substantial losses.**

The Fund is structured as a limited "fund-of-funds" that seeks to achieve its investment goal by investing its assets partially in other mutual funds, which include other Franklin Templeton and Legg Mason mutual funds and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) and third-party ETFs (underlying funds). Each underlying fund is allocated to the equity, fixed income, multi-class or cash asset class based on its predominant asset class and strategies. These underlying funds, in turn, invest in a variety of U.S. and foreign equity, fixed-income and money market securities. The Fund also obtains exposure to certain strategies and investments in its core portfolio by directly investing in the securities and instruments in that strategy. The Fund may have a large percentage of its core portfolio assets invested in underlying funds at any given time; however, the Fund will not invest more than 25% of its assets in any one underlying fund at any given time. The Fund's investments in underlying funds will change over time depending on various factors, including general market conditions.

### **Core Portfolio**

Under normal market conditions, the Fund's core portfolio is allocated among the broad asset classes according to the following approximate percentages to achieve the Fund's asset allocation strategy:

- 50%-70% Equity Allocation
- 13%-33% Fixed Income Allocation
- 5%-15% Multi-Asset Class Allocation (combination of equity and fixed income)
- 2%-13% Cash (includes cash, cash equivalents and money market funds or securities)

To the extent that Advisers allocates the Fund's assets to underlying funds, such allocations are based on the underlying fund's predominant asset class. These underlying funds invest in a variety of equity and fixed-income securities and may also have exposure to derivative instruments.

At the discretion of Advisers, the above percentages may vary from time to time without shareholder approval, *e.g.*, based on market conditions or the investment manager's assessment of an asset class' relative attractiveness as an investment opportunity or as part of the volatility management strategy. In addition, as a result of the Fund's use of derivatives, and/or in an effort to manage expected volatility, the Fund may hold significant amounts of cash, cash equivalents and money market instruments.

When selecting equity funds for the Fund's core portfolio, Advisers considers a number of characteristics, including but not limited to, the underlying funds' market capitalization ranges, and investment style (growth vs. value). When selecting fixed-income funds for the Fund's core portfolio, Advisers considers a number of characteristics, including but not limited to, yield and price volatility. In evaluating the risk level of the underlying funds, the Advisers analyzes various characteristics including but not limited to: (a) relative and absolute performance, including correlations with other underlying funds as well as corresponding benchmarks, and (b) their volatility.

### **Volatility Management Strategy**

The Fund employs a volatility management strategy that seeks to stabilize the number and level of performance swings of the Fund over time. Managing the Fund's volatility to within its Target Volatility is intended to reduce the downside risk of the Fund during periods of significant and sustained market declines. There is, however, no guarantee that the Fund will remain within its Target Volatility. In this context, "volatility" is a statistical measurement of the frequency and level of up and down fluctuations of the Fund's returns over time. Volatility may result in rapid and dramatic price swings. Volatility, in other words, represents the average annual deviation of the Fund's return around the average Fund return.

In employing this strategy, Advisers measures the expected annual volatility of the Fund's core portfolio. If the Fund's expected annual volatility exceeds the Target Volatility, the Fund will write (sell) one or more equity index futures contracts (usually S&P 500 Index futures contracts) with the goal of decreasing the core portfolio's exposure to U.S. equity securities so that the expected annual volatility of the Fund is at or below the

target of 10%. Generally, Advisers intends to use the strategy to reduce risk and would not employ the volatility management strategy if the expected volatility of the Fund's core portfolio is at or below the Target Volatility. The volatility strategy may cause the Fund's effective exposure to certain asset classes to be greater or less than its direct investments.

With respect to the Fund's derivative investments, the Fund may enter into equity index futures contracts in connection with the Fund's volatility management strategy. In addition, the underlying funds may enter into various transactions involving complex derivative instruments for hedging or investment purposes.

## 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.

For purposes of this "Principal Risks" section, the term "investment manager" refers to Advisers, the Fund's sub-advisor or any of the underlying fund's investment managers or sub-advisors, as applicable.

**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.

The current global outbreak of the novel strain of coronavirus, COVID-19, has resulted in market closures and dislocations, extreme volatility, liquidity constraints and increased trading costs. Efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 have resulted in global travel restrictions and disruptions of healthcare systems, business operations and supply chains, layoffs, reduced consumer demand, defaults and credit ratings downgrades, and other significant economic impacts. The effects of COVID-19 have impacted global economic activity across many industries and may heighten other pre-existing political, social and economic risks, locally or globally. The full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is unpredictable and may adversely affect the Fund's performance.

Stock prices tend to go up and down more dramatically than those of debt securities. A slower-growth or recessionary economic environment could have an adverse effect on the prices of the various stocks held by the Fund.

**Volatility Management Strategy** There can be no guarantee that the Fund's volatility management strategy will be successful; moreover, achieving the Fund's strategy of limiting the Fund's annual volatility does not mean the Fund will achieve a positive or competitive return. The actual volatility that the Fund experiences may be significantly higher than its Target Volatility. In addition, the volatility management strategy focuses on managing the volatility of the U.S. equity markets – to the extent the underlying funds have exposure to foreign markets, volatility resulting from those investments will not be managed under the volatility management strategy. The volatility management strategy can be expected to limit the Fund's participation in market price appreciation when compared to similar funds that do not attempt this strategy.

In seeking to manage the Fund's portfolio and overall volatility, Advisers uses proprietary and third-party risk modeling systems to obtain short-term risk and correlation forecasts. There is no assurance that the modeling systems are complete or accurate, or representative of future market cycles, nor will they necessarily be beneficial to the Fund even if they are accurate.

In cases of extreme market conditions during which there is price dislocation for certain securities or in the event of systemic market dislocation, the Fund's managed volatility strategy may cause the Fund to be significantly over- or under-exposed to a specific security or asset class, which may cause the Fund to lose significantly more than it would have lost had the managed volatility strategy or the risk models not been used.

**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.



## FUND SUMMARY

**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 or government's credit rating may affect a security's value.

**Derivative Instruments** The performance of derivative instruments depends largely on the performance of an underlying currency, security or index, and such instruments often have risks similar to their 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. 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 or other risk being hedged. Derivatives also may present the risk that the other party to the transaction will fail to perform.

**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.

**Small and Mid Capitalization Companies** Securities issued by small and mid capitalization companies may be more volatile in price than those of larger companies and may involve additional risks. Such risks may include greater sensitivity to economic conditions, less certain growth prospects, lack of depth of management and funds for growth and development, and limited or less developed product lines and markets. In addition, small and mid capitalization companies may be particularly affected by interest rate increases, as they may find it more difficult to borrow money to continue or expand operations, or may have difficulty in repaying any loans.

**Investing in Underlying Funds** Because the Fund invests in underlying funds, and the Fund's performance is directly related to the performance of the underlying funds held by it, the ability of the Fund to achieve its investment goal is directly related to the ability of the underlying funds to meet their investment goal. In addition, shareholders of the Fund will indirectly bear the fees and expenses of the underlying funds.

**Investing in ETFs** The Fund's investment in ETFs may subject the Fund to additional risks than if the Fund would have invested directly in the ETFs' underlying securities. These risks include the possibility that an ETF may experience a lack of liquidity that can result in greater volatility than its underlying securities; an ETF may trade at a premium or discount to its net asset value; or, if an index fund, an ETF may not replicate exactly the performance of the benchmark index it seeks to track. In addition, investing in an ETF may also be more costly than if a Fund had owned the underlying securities directly. The Fund, and indirectly shareholders of the Fund, bear a proportionate share of the ETF's expenses, which include management and advisory fees and other expenses. In addition, the Fund pays brokerage commissions in connection with the purchase and sale of shares of ETFs.

**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.

**Mortgage Securities and Asset-Backed Securities** Mortgage securities differ from conventional debt securities because principal is paid back periodically over the life of the security rather than at maturity. The Fund may receive unscheduled payments of principal due to voluntary prepayments, refinancings or foreclosures on the underlying mortgage loans. Because of prepayments, mortgage securities may be less effective than some other types of debt securities as a means of "locking in" long-term interest rates and may have less potential for capital appreciation during periods of falling interest rates. A reduction in the anticipated rate of principal prepayments, especially during periods of rising interest rates, may increase or extend the effective maturity of mortgage securities, making them more sensitive to



interest rate changes, subject to greater price volatility, and more susceptible than some other debt securities to a decline in market value when interest rates rise.

Issuers of asset-backed securities may have limited ability to enforce the security interest in the underlying assets, and credit enhancements provided to support the securities, if any, may be inadequate to protect investors in the event of default. Like mortgage securities, asset-backed securities are subject to prepayment and extension risks.

**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.

**Foreign Securities (non-U.S.)** Investing in foreign securities typically involves more risks than investing in U.S. securities, including risks related to currency exchange rates and policies, country or government specific issues, less favorable trading practices or

regulation and greater price volatility. Certain of these risks also may apply to securities of U.S. companies with significant foreign operations.

**LIBOR Transition** The Fund invests in financial instruments that may have floating or variable rate calculations for payment obligations or financing terms based on the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR), which is the benchmark interest rate at which major global banks lend to one another in the international interbank market for short-term loans. It is currently anticipated that LIBOR will be discontinued by the end of 2021 and will cease to be published after that time. Although many LIBOR rates will be phased out at the end of 2021 as originally intended, a selection of widely used USD LIBOR rates will continue to be published until June 2023 in order to assist with the transition. The impact of the discontinuation of LIBOR and the transition to an alternative rate on the Fund's portfolio remains uncertain. There can be no guarantee that financial instruments that transition to an alternative reference rate will retain the same value or liquidity as they would otherwise have had.

FUND SUMMARY

Performance

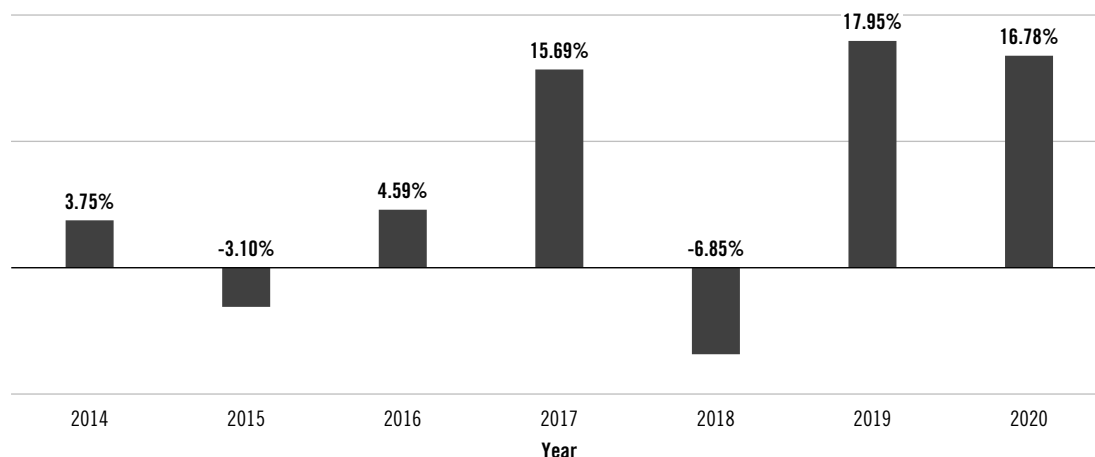
The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of an investment in the Fund. The bar chart shows changes in the Fund's performance from year to year for Class 5 shares. The table shows how the Fund's average annual returns for 1 year, 5 years and since inception compared to that 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. On May 1, 2015, the Fund's investment strategies changed. The performance below prior to May 1, 2015 is attributable to the Fund's performance before the strategy change. In addition, on that date, the Class 5 Rule 12b-1 distribution and service fees increased. If the performance reflected the current Rule 12b-1 distribution and service fee of Class 5 shares, historical performance would be lower. Subsequently, on July 26, 2016, the Fund's investment strategies were changed again. The

performance below between May 1, 2015 and July 26, 2016 is attributable to the Fund's performance before this most recent strategy change.

The inclusion of the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index shows how the Fund's performance compares to a group of securities in a leading bond index. The inclusion of the Blended Benchmark shows how the Fund's performance compares with a blend of leading stock and bond indices to better reflect the asset allocation of the Fund's portfolio. The Blended Benchmark is calculated internally and is comprised of: 60% S&P 500 Index; 30% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index; and 10% Bloomberg Barclays 1-3 Month U.S. Treasury Bill 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>	Q1'19	9.17%
<b>Worst Quarter:</b>	Q4'18	-10.08%

As of March 31, 2021, the Fund's year-to-date return was 3.17%.

**Average Annual Total Returns**

For the periods ended December 31, 2020

	1 Year	5 Years	Since Inception 4/1/2013
<b>Franklin VolSmart Allocation VIP Fund - Class 5</b>	16.78%	9.20%	6.28%
S&P 500 Index (index reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	18.40%	15.21%	14.28%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index (index reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	7.51%	4.43%	3.41%
Blended Benchmark (index reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	14.01%	10.75%	8.32%

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

**Investment Manager**

Franklin Advisers, Inc. (Advisers)

**Portfolio Managers****Thomas A. Nelson, CFA**

Portfolio Manager of Advisers and portfolio manager of the Fund since 2015.

**Vaneet Chadha, CFA**

Portfolio Manager of Advisers and portfolio manager of the volatility management strategy since 2020.

**Sundaram Chettiappan, CFA**

Portfolio Manager of Advisers and a portfolio manager of the U.S. smart beta strategy portion of the Fund since 2020.

**Nicholas P. B. Getaz, CFA**

Portfolio Manager of Advisers and a portfolio manager of the rising dividends strategy portion of the Fund since 2019.

**Matthew D. Quinlan**

Vice President of Advisers and a portfolio manager of the rising dividends strategy portion of the Fund since 2019.

**Chandra Seethamraju, Ph.D.**

Portfolio Manager of Advisers and a portfolio manager of the U.S. smart beta strategy portion of the Fund since 2020.

**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.

## FUND SUMMARY

### 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, 2021, over \$1.50 trillion in assets, and have been in the investment management business since 1947.

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### Investment Goal

The Fund's investment goal is total return (including income and capital gains) while seeking to manage volatility. The Fund's investment goal is non-fundamental, which means it may be changed by the board of trustees without shareholder approval. Shareholders will be given at least 60 days' advance notice of any change to the Fund's investment goal.

### Principal Investment Policies and Practices

Under normal market conditions, the Fund seeks to achieve its investment goal by allocating its assets across certain asset classes, sectors and strategies in an attempt to produce a diversified portfolio that will generate returns while minimizing the expected volatility of the Fund's returns so that volatility does not exceed a target of 10% per year (volatility within the 10% target is referred to as "Target Volatility"). Managing the Fund to remain within its Target Volatility is designed to reduce the potential dramatic and rapid price swings that could be experienced by the Fund's "core portfolio." The Fund's assets are primarily invested in its "core portfolio," which is principally comprised of various U.S. equity and fixed income investments and strategies including investments in other mutual funds and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) that provide exposure to such investments and strategies, as described in more detail below. The Fund's investment manager, Franklin Advisers, Inc. (Advisers), allocates the Fund's assets among the strategies and investments in the core portfolio to diversify the assets of the Fund and to reduce the Fund's risk of being significantly impacted by changes in a specific asset class.

In addition, Advisers employs an additional strategy to manage the Fund's risk exposure to market volatility. Advisers employ a volatility management strategy, which is designed to manage the expected volatility of the Fund's returns so that volatility remains within the Fund's Target Volatility. In employing this strategy, Advisers measures the Fund's expected volatility and utilizes certain derivative instruments (primarily futures contracts on indices) to adjust the Fund's expected volatility to within the Target Volatility, as described in more detail below. There is no guarantee that the Fund will stay within its Target Volatility.

**There is no guarantee that the Fund's volatility management strategy will be successful. The Fund's Target Volatility is not a total return performance target – the Fund does not expect, nor does it represent, that its total return performance will be within any specified range. It is possible that the Fund could stay within its Target Volatility while**

**having negative performance returns. Also, efforts to manage the Fund's volatility can be expected to limit the Fund's gains in rising markets, may expose the Fund to costs to which it would otherwise not have been exposed, and if unsuccessful may result in substantial losses.**

The Fund is structured as a limited "fund-of-funds" that seeks to achieve its investment goal by investing its assets partially in other mutual funds, which include other Franklin Templeton and Legg Mason mutual funds and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) and third-party ETFs (underlying funds). Each underlying fund is allocated to the equity, fixed income, multi-class or cash asset class based on its predominant asset class and strategies. These underlying funds, in turn, invest in a variety of U.S. and foreign equity, fixed-income and money market securities. The Fund also obtains exposure to certain strategies and investments in its core portfolio by directly investing in the securities and instruments in that strategy. The Fund may have a large percentage of its core portfolio assets invested in underlying funds at any given time; however, the Fund will not invest more than 25% of its assets in any one underlying fund at any given time. The Fund's investments in underlying funds will change over time depending on various factors, including general market conditions.

### Core Portfolio

Under normal market conditions, the Fund's core portfolio is allocated among the broad asset classes according to the following approximate percentages to achieve the Fund's asset allocation strategy:

- 50%-70% Equity Allocation
- 13%-33% Fixed Income Allocation
- 5%-15% Multi-Asset Class Allocation (combination of equity and fixed income)
- 2%-13% Cash (includes cash, cash equivalents and money market funds or securities)

To the extent that Advisers allocates the Fund's assets to underlying funds, such allocations are based on the underlying fund's predominant asset class. These underlying funds invest in a variety of equity and fixed-income securities and may also have exposure to derivative instruments.

The Fund relies on certain rules and exemptions permitted under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (1940 Act) to invest its assets in affiliated underlying funds in excess of the limits prescribed by the 1940 Act.



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At the discretion of Advisers, the above percentages may vary from time to time without shareholder approval, e.g., based on market conditions or the investment manager's assessment of an asset class' relative attractiveness as an investment opportunity or as part of the volatility management strategy. In addition, as a result of the Fund's use of derivatives, and/or in an effort to manage expected volatility, the Fund may hold significant amounts of cash, cash equivalents and money market instruments.

When selecting equity funds for the Fund's core portfolio, Advisers considers a number of characteristics, including but not limited to, the underlying funds' market capitalization ranges, and investment style (growth vs. value). When selecting fixed-income funds for the Fund's core portfolio, Advisers considers a number of characteristics, including but not limited to, yield and price volatility. In evaluating the risk level of the underlying funds, the Advisers analyzes various characteristics including but not limited to: (a) relative and absolute performance, including correlations with other underlying funds as well as corresponding benchmarks, and (b) their volatility.

The Fund may invest in underlying fixed income funds that have exposure to securities of any duration, maturity or credit quality including high yield debt securities.

The principal investment strategies and principal underlying funds currently expected to comprise the core portfolio, as of the date of this prospectus, are as follows. The investment manager may select additional underlying funds and strategies or remove underlying funds and strategies for investment at any time in their discretion (without the approval of shareholders).

### ***Rising Dividends Strategy (equity)***

This strategy focuses on long-term capital appreciation and preservation of capital by investing primarily in equity securities of companies that the investment manager believes have a history of consistent and substantial dividend increases.

### ***U.S. Smart Beta Strategy (equity)***

Franklin's U.S. Smart Beta strategy seeks to provide investment results that closely correspond to a systematic, rules-based proprietary index that is based on the Russell 1000® Index using a methodology developed by FTSE Russell and Franklin Templeton. This methodology seeks to achieve a lower level of risk and higher risk-adjusted performance than the Russell 1000® Index over the long term by applying a multi-factor selection process, which is designed to select

equity securities from the Russell 1000® Index that have favorable exposure to four investment style factors – quality, value, momentum and low volatility.

### ***Franklin DynaTech Fund (equity)***

The fund seeks capital appreciation by investing primarily in equity securities of companies that its manager believes are leaders in innovation, take advantage of new technologies, have superior management, and benefit from new industry conditions in the dynamically changing global economy.

### ***Franklin Growth Fund (equity)***

The fund seeks long-term capital appreciation by investing substantially in the equity securities of companies that are leaders in their industries, and which its manager believes are suitable for a buy-and-hold strategy.

### ***Western Asset Core Bond Fund (fixed-income)***

The fund invests in a portfolio of fixed income securities of various maturities and, under normal market conditions, will invest at least 80% of its net assets in debt and fixed income securities. The fund seeks to maintain a dollar-weighted average effective duration within 20% of the average duration of the domestic bond market as a whole.

### ***Western Asset Core Plus Bond Fund (fixed-income)***

The fund invests in a portfolio of fixed income securities of various maturities and, under normal market conditions, will invest at least 80% of its net assets in debt and fixed income securities. The fund seeks to maintain a dollar-weighted average effective duration within 30% of the average duration of the domestic bond market as a whole.

### ***Franklin Liberty U.S. Core Bond ETF (fixed-income)***

The ETF seeks total return by investing in bonds of U.S. issuers, including government, corporate debt, mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities.

### ***Western Asset Short-Term Bond Fund (fixed-income)***

The fund invests at least 80% of its assets in investment grade fixed income securities. The fund normally maintains an average effective maturity of not more than three years.

### ***Franklin U.S. Government Securities Fund (fixed-income)***

The fund invests at least 80% of its assets in U.S. government securities.

### ***Franklin Income Fund***

The fund seeks income by selecting investments such as corporate, foreign and U.S. Treasury bonds, as well as stocks with relatively high dividends.

**Cash, Cash Equivalents and Money Market Securities**

With respect to its cash investments, the Fund expects to hold cash, cash equivalents and high quality money market securities, including U.S. Government securities, U.S. Government agency securities, bank obligations, commercial paper, repurchase agreements and affiliated money market funds.

**Volatility Management Strategy**

The Fund employs a volatility management strategy that seeks to stabilize the number and level of performance swings of the Fund over time. Managing the Fund's volatility to within its Target Volatility is intended to reduce the downside risk of the Fund during periods of significant and sustained market declines. There is, however, no guarantee that the Fund will remain within its Target Volatility. In this context, "volatility" is a statistical measurement of the frequency and level of up and down fluctuations of the Fund's returns over time. Volatility may result in rapid and dramatic price swings. Volatility, in other words, represents the average annual deviation of the Fund's return around the average Fund return.

In employing this strategy, Advisers measures the expected annual volatility of the Fund's core portfolio. If the Fund's expected annual volatility exceeds the Target Volatility, the Fund will write (sell) one or more equity index futures contracts (usually S&P 500 Index futures contracts) with the goal of decreasing the core portfolio's exposure to U.S. equity securities so that the expected annual volatility of the Fund is at or below the target of 10%. Generally, Advisers intends to use the strategy to reduce risk and would not employ the volatility management strategy if the expected volatility of the Fund's core portfolio is at or below the Target Volatility. The volatility management strategy may be employed as often as daily or may not be adjusted for extended periods of time. Whether to employ the strategy, as well as the timing and extent of any adjustments to the strategy, are within the sole discretion of Advisers. The volatility strategy may cause the Fund's effective exposure to certain asset classes to be greater or less than its direct investments.

In connection with the Fund's volatility management strategy, Advisers may use a combination of proprietary and third-party risk modeling systems to help it estimate the expected volatility of the Fund's portfolio on a daily basis. The risk models are based on the historical returns of selected asset classes (or, in some cases, recreations

or simulations of such returns) and can reflect certain back-tested data from the previous decade, to help estimate short-term and long-term risk (and volatility). For example, Advisers makes future estimates of the expected volatility of the Fund, including the various asset classes in which it invests. Based on those estimates and other factors, Advisers adjusts the Fund's exposure to U.S. equity asset classes (through equity index futures contracts) in an attempt to stay within the Fund's Target Volatility.

With respect to the Fund's derivative investments, the Fund may enter into equity index futures contracts in connection with the Fund's volatility management strategy. In addition, the underlying funds may enter into various transactions involving complex derivative instruments for hedging or investment purposes.

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, such as a specific index, at a specified price at a specified later date that trades on an exchange. A "sale" of a futures contract means the acquisition of a contractual obligation to deliver the underlying instrument specified in the contract at a specified price on a specified date. The sale of an equity index futures contract will allow the Fund to decrease its exposure to a certain asset or asset class. Equity index futures contracts allow for a cash payment of the net gain or loss on the contract at the time of delivery. The Fund may sell futures contracts that trade on U.S. and foreign exchanges. By way of example, when Advisers believes that the value of the U.S. equity securities market is expected to increase in volatility, the Fund could sell futures contracts on S&P 500 futures contracts. If at such future date the value of the securities on the index is less than the amount to be paid by the Fund under the contract, the Fund will recognize a gain that would offset losses on the Fund's portfolio resulting from volatility in the equity markets.

**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.

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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

The Fund may allocate, without limitation, assets into cash or short-term fixed income securities, and away from riskier assets, such as equity securities. When Advisers believes market or economic conditions are unfavorable for investors, up to 100% of the Fund's assets may be invested 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, high-grade commercial paper, bank obligations, repurchase agreements, money market fund shares (including shares of an affiliated money market fund) and other money market instruments. Advisers also may invest in these types of securities or hold cash while looking for suitable investment opportunities, to maintain liquidity, to meet expected redemption obligations, or to segregate on the Fund's books in connection with its derivative strategies. In any of these circumstances, the Fund may be unable to achieve its investment goals.

## Principal Risks

For purposes of this "Principal Risks" section, the term "investment manager" refers to Advisers, the Fund's sub-advisor or any of the underlying fund's investment managers or sub-advisors, as applicable.

### Market

The market values of securities or other investments owned by the Fund will go up or down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably. The Fund's investments may decline in value due to factors affecting individual issuers (such

as the results of supply and demand), or sectors within the securities markets. The value of a security or other investment also may go up or down due to general market conditions that 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. In addition, unexpected events and their aftermaths, such as the spread of diseases; natural, environmental or man-made disasters; financial, political or social disruptions; terrorism and war; and other tragedies or catastrophes, can cause investor fear and panic, which can adversely affect the economies of many companies, sectors, nations, regions and the market in general, in ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen. 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.

The current global outbreak of the novel strain of coronavirus, COVID-19, has resulted in market closures and dislocations, extreme volatility, liquidity constraints and increased trading costs. Efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 have resulted in global travel restrictions and disruptions of healthcare systems, business operations and supply chains, layoffs, reduced consumer demand, defaults and credit ratings downgrades, and other significant economic impacts. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have impacted global economic activity across many industries and may heighten other pre-existing political, social and economic risks, locally or globally. The full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, on national and global economies, individual companies and the financial markets is unpredictable, may result in a high degree of uncertainty for potentially extended periods of time and may adversely affect the Fund's performance.

Stock prices tend to go up and down more dramatically than those of debt securities. A slower-growth or recessionary economic environment could have an adverse effect on the prices of the various stocks held by the Fund.

### Volatility Management Strategy

There can be no guarantee that the Fund's volatility management strategy will be successful; moreover, achieving the Fund's strategy of limiting the Fund's annual volatility does not mean the Fund will achieve a positive or competitive return. The actual volatility that

the Fund experiences may be significantly higher than its Target Volatility. For example, actual realized annual volatility can be expected to exceed the Target Volatility periodically, and this can result in negative returns (losses) that persist beyond one year. In addition, this strategy may expose the Fund to costs to which it would otherwise not have been exposed and, if unsuccessful, may cause the Fund to experience substantial losses greater than what the Fund might have experienced had such strategy not been implemented at all. In addition, the volatility management strategy focuses on managing the volatility of the U.S. equity markets – to the extent the underlying funds have exposure to foreign markets, volatility resulting from those investments will not be managed under the volatility management strategy. Moreover, the volatility management strategy can also be expected to limit the Fund's participation in market price appreciation when compared to similar funds that do not attempt this strategy.

Advisers expect that, in periods of particularly high volatility in certain markets, the Fund may experience volatility greater than its Target Volatility. The Fund could experience volatility greater than its Target Volatility at any time and for any period of time. Also, the Fund's net asset value may be more volatile over short-term periods.

In seeking to manage the Fund's portfolio and overall volatility, Advisers uses proprietary and third-party risk modeling systems to obtain short-term risk and correlation forecasts. These models examine multiple economic factors and asset classes using a large amount of data, including third-party data, selected historical returns (or, in some cases, recreations of such returns), and certain back-tested data over the past ten years. There is no assurance that the modeling systems are complete or accurate, or representative of future market cycles, nor will they necessarily be beneficial to the Fund even if they are accurate. The results generated by these models may perform differently than in the past, or as expected. They may negatively affect Fund performance and the ability of the Fund to meet its goal for various reasons. For example, human judgment plays a role in building, using, testing, and modifying the financial algorithms. Additionally, there is a possibility that historical data may be imprecise or become stale due to new events or changing circumstances which the models may not promptly detect. Market performance can be affected by non-quantitative factors (for example, market or trading system dysfunctions, investor fear or over-reaction or other emotional considerations) that are not easily integrated into risk models. There may also be

technical issues with the construction and implementation of quantitative models (for example, software or other technology malfunctions, or programming inaccuracies).

In cases of extreme market conditions during which there is price dislocation for certain securities or in the event of systemic market dislocation, the Fund's managed volatility strategy may cause the Fund to be significantly over- or under-exposed to a specific security or asset class. In such cases, the Fund may lose more and, in some cases, may lose significantly more, than it would have lost had the managed volatility strategy or the risk models not been used. In addition, in periods of extreme or sudden market decline, if risk models do not predict, or only detect after a time lag, such sudden or extreme declines, the Fund's managed volatility strategy will not protect fully against the market decline, realized or actual volatility can be higher than the Target Volatility, and the Fund could be exposed to large losses regardless of its managed volatility strategy. Sustained market disruptions and price dislocation can also prevent the Fund from implementing its investment strategies, including its managed volatility strategy, for a period of time and may prevent the Fund from achieving its investment goal.

#### **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 debt 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. During low interest rate environments, the risk that interest rates will rise is increased. Such increases may expose fixed income markets to heightened volatility and reduced liquidity for certain fixed income investments, particularly those with longer maturities. In addition, low interest rate



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environments may prevent a debt fund from paying expenses out of its assets if its earned income is insufficient to cover expenses.

### **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.

### **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. 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 realize 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 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.

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.

### **Income**

Because the Fund can only distribute what it earns, the Fund's distributions to shareholders may decline when prevailing interest rates fall, when dividend income from investments in stocks decline, or when the Fund experiences defaults on debt securities it holds.

### **Small and Mid Capitalization Companies**

While small and mid capitalization companies may offer substantial opportunities for capital growth, they also may involve more risks than larger capitalization companies. Historically, small and mid capitalization company securities have been more volatile in price than larger company securities, especially over the short term. Among the reasons for the greater price volatility are the less certain growth prospects of small and mid

capitalization companies, the lower degree of liquidity in the markets for such securities, and the greater sensitivity of small and mid capitalization companies to changing economic conditions.

In addition, small and mid capitalization companies may lack depth of management, be unable to generate funds necessary for growth or development, have limited product lines or be developing or marketing new products or services for which markets are not yet established and may never become established. Small and mid capitalization companies may be particularly affected by interest rate increases, as they may find it more difficult to borrow money to continue or expand operations, or may have difficulty in repaying loans, particularly those with floating interest rates.

### **Investing in Underlying Funds**

Because the Fund invests in underlying funds, and the Fund's performance is directly related to the performance of the underlying funds held by it, the ability of the Fund to achieve its investment goal is directly related to the ability of the underlying funds to meet their investment goal. In addition, shareholders of the Fund will indirectly bear the fees and expenses of the underlying funds. The risks described herein are the principal risks of the Fund and the underlying funds. For purposes of the discussion of risks of the Fund, "Fund" means the Fund and/or one or more of the underlying funds in which the Fund invests.

### **Investing in ETFs**

The Fund's investments in ETFs may subject the Fund to additional risks than if the Fund would have invested directly in the ETFs' underlying securities. These risks include the possibility that an ETF may experience a lack of liquidity that can result in greater volatility than its underlying securities; an ETF may trade at a premium or discount to its net asset value; or, if an index ETF, an ETF may not replicate exactly the performance of the benchmark index it seeks to track. In addition, investing in an ETF may also be more costly than if a Fund had owned the underlying securities directly. The Fund, and indirectly, shareholders of the Fund, bear a proportionate share of the ETF's expenses, which include management and advisory fees and other expenses. In addition, the Fund pays brokerage commissions in connection with the purchase and sale of shares of ETFs.

The Fund's investments in ETFs may subject the Fund to additional risks than if the Fund would have invested directly in the ETFs' underlying securities. These risks include the possibility that an ETF may experience a

lack of liquidity that can result in greater volatility than its underlying securities. In addition, an ETF may trade at a premium or discount to its net asset value, as shares of an ETF are bought and sold based on exchanges on market values and not at the ETF's net asset value. Another risk of investing in ETFs is the possibility that one ETF may buy the same securities that another ETF sells. If this happens, an investor in the Fund would indirectly bear the costs of these transactions without accomplishing the intended investment purpose. Also, an investor in the Fund may receive taxable gains from portfolio transactions by an ETF, as well as taxable gains from transactions in shares of the ETF by the Fund. The Fund or the underlying ETFs may hold common portfolio securities, thereby reducing the diversification benefits of the Fund.

### **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.

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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.

Substantial declines in the prices of high-yield debt instruments can dramatically increase the yield of such instruments. The decline in market prices generally reflects an expectation that the issuer(s) may be at greater risk of defaulting on the obligation to pay interest and principal when due. Therefore, substantial increases in yield may reflect a greater risk by the Fund of losing some or part of its investment rather than reflecting any increase in income from the higher yield that the debt instrument may pay to the Fund on its investment.

### **Mortgage Securities and Asset-Backed Securities**

Mortgage securities differ from conventional debt securities because principal is paid back over the life of the security rather than at maturity. The Fund may receive unscheduled prepayments of principal due to voluntary prepayments, refinancing or foreclosure on the underlying mortgage loans. To the Fund this means a loss of anticipated interest, and a portion of its principal investment represented by any premium the Fund may have paid. Mortgage prepayments generally increase when interest rates fall. Because of prepayments, mortgage securities may be less effective than some other types of debt securities as a means of "locking in" long-term interest rates and may have less potential for capital appreciation during periods of falling interest rates. When the Fund reinvests the prepayments of principal it receives, it may receive a rate of interest that is lower than the rate on the existing security.

Mortgage securities also are subject to extension risk. An unexpected rise in interest rates could reduce the rate of prepayments on mortgage securities and extend their life. This could cause the price of the mortgage securities and the Fund's share price to fall and would make the mortgage securities more sensitive to interest rate changes.

Since September 2008, the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA), an agency of the U.S. government, has acted as the conservator to operate Fannie Mae

and Freddie Mac until they are stabilized. It is unclear how long the conservatorship will last or what effect this conservatorship will have on the securities issued or guaranteed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac for the long-term.

Issuers of asset-backed securities may have limited ability to enforce the security interest in the underlying assets, and credit enhancements provided to support the securities, if any, may be inadequate to protect investors in the event of default. Like mortgage securities, asset-backed securities are subject to prepayment and extension risks.

### **Variable Rate Securities**

Variable rate securities (which include floating rate debt securities) generally are less price sensitive to interest rate changes than fixed rate debt securities. However, the market value of variable rate debt securities may decline or not appreciate as quickly as expected when prevailing interest rates rise if the interest rates of the variable rate securities do not rise as much, or as quickly, as interest rates in general. Conversely, variable rate securities will not generally increase in market value if interest rates decline. When interest rates fall, there may be a reduction in the payments of interest received by the Fund from its variable rate securities.

### **Floating Rate Corporate Investments**

The senior secured corporate loans and corporate debt securities in which the Fund invests are often issued in connection with highly leveraged transactions. Such transactions include leveraged buyout loans, leveraged recapitalization loans, and other types of acquisition financing. Loan investments issued in such transactions are subject to greater credit risks than other investments including a greater possibility that the borrower may default or enter bankruptcy. Such floating rate investments may be rated below investment grade (i.e., also known as "junk bonds"). Although loan investments are generally subject to certain restrictive covenants in favor of the investors, many of these loans may from time to time be reissued or offered as "covenant lite" loans, which may entail potentially increased risk, because they may have fewer or no financial maintenance covenants or restrictions that would normally allow for early intervention and proactive mitigation of credit risk.

### **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.

### 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.

### 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.

**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, or other government action impacting, certain issuers in a country could result in (i) an immediate freeze of that issuer's securities, impairing the ability of the Fund to buy, sell, receive or deliver those securities or (ii) other limitations on the Fund's ability to invest or hold such 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.

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**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 Markets

The risks of foreign investments typically are greater in less developed countries, sometimes referred to as developing or emerging markets. For example, the political, social, market regulation and economic structures and institutions in these countries, including those supporting the regulatory and legal systems and financial markets, may be less established and more

vulnerable to corruption and fraud, and may change rapidly. These countries are more likely to experience high levels of inflation, deflation or currency devaluation, which can harm their economies and securities markets and increase volatility. In fact, short-term volatility in these markets and declines of 50% or more are not uncommon. Investments in less developed markets generally are subject to higher fees and expenses and exhibit greater price volatility and valuation challenges. They may be subject to greater risk of expropriation, nationalization, confiscatory or punitive taxation, and foreign investment and divestment restrictions. In addition, a developing market country may experience a devaluation of its currency, a downgrade in the credit ratings of issuers in the 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.

Restrictions on currency trading that may be imposed by developing market countries will have an adverse effect on the value of the securities of companies that trade or operate in such countries. Finally, such securities markets are smaller, relatively less liquid and may not be as efficient or established in terms of settlement, custody and securities registration.

### LIBOR Transition

The Fund invests in financial instruments that may have floating or variable rate calculations for payment obligations or financing terms based on the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR), which is the benchmark interest rate at which major global banks lend to one another in the international interbank market for short-term loans. It is currently anticipated that LIBOR will be discontinued by the end of 2021 and will cease to be published after that time. Although many LIBOR rates will be phased out at the end of 2021 as originally intended, a selection of widely used USD LIBOR rates will continue to be published until June 2023 in order to assist with the transition. The impact of the discontinuation of LIBOR and the transition to an alternative rate on the Fund's portfolio remains uncertain. There can be no guarantee that financial instruments that transition to an alternative reference rate will retain the same value or liquidity as they would otherwise have had.

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 a team of dedicated professionals. The portfolio managers of the team are as follows:

**Thomas A. Nelson, CFA**

Portfolio Manager of Advisers

Mr. Nelson has been a lead portfolio manager of the Fund since 2015. He joined Franklin Templeton in 2007.

**Vaneet Chadha, CFA**

Portfolio Manager of Advisers

Mr. Chadha has been a portfolio manager of the volatility management strategy of Fund since 2020. He joined Franklin Templeton in 2012.

**Sundaram Chettiappan, CFA**

Portfolio Manager of Advisers

Mr. Chettiappan has been a portfolio manager of the U.S. smart beta strategy of the Fund since 2020. He joined Franklin Templeton in 2018. Prior to joining Franklin Templeton, he was a Senior Quantitative Researcher within the Systematic Strategies Group at Balyasny Asset Management.

**Nicholas P. B. Getaz, CFA**

Portfolio Manager of Advisers

Mr. Getaz has been a portfolio manager of the rising dividends strategy of the Fund since 2019. He joined Franklin Templeton in 2011.

**Matthew D. Quinlan**

Vice President of Advisers

Mr. Quinlan has been a portfolio manager of the rising dividends strategy of the Fund since 2019. He joined Franklin Templeton in 2005.

**Chandra Seethamraju, Ph.D.**

Portfolio Manager of Advisers

Dr. Seethamraju has been a portfolio manager of the U.S. smart beta strategy of the Fund since 2020. He joined Franklin Templeton in 2013.

Mr. Nelson has final authority over all aspects of the Fund's investment portfolio, including but not limited to the Fund's investment decisions relating to the allocation of assets of the Fund's core portfolio, its volatility management strategy, portfolio risk assessment, and the management of daily cash balances in accordance with anticipated investment management requirements. Mr. Chadha has primary responsibility for the investments of the volatility management strategy of the Fund and has authority over all aspects of the volatility management strategy of the Fund's investment portfolio, including but not limited to, purchases and sales of individual securities and portfolio risk assessment. Messrs. Getaz and Quinlan have primary responsibilities for the investments of the rising dividends strategy of the Fund and have equal authority over all aspects of the rising dividends strategy of the Fund's investment portfolio, including but not limited to, purchases and sales of individual securities and portfolio risk assessment. Mr. Chettiappan and Dr. Seethamraju have primary responsibilities for the U.S. smart beta strategy of the Fund and have equal authority over all aspects of the U.S. smart beta strategy of the Fund's investment portfolio, including but not limited to, purchases and sales of individual securities and portfolio risk assessment. The degree to which each portfolio manager may perform these functions, and the nature of these functions, may change from time to time.

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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, 2020 Advisers agreed to reduce its fees to reflect reduced services resulting from the Fund's investment in Franklin Templeton affiliated funds (acquired fund). Advisers has also agreed to waive a portion of the Fund's advisory fee equal to the advisory fee it or its affiliates receive from affiliated underlying funds with respect to the Fund's assets invested in those affiliated underlying funds. In addition, Advisers has agreed to waive or limit its fees and to assume as its own certain expenses otherwise payable by the Fund so that common expenses (i.e., a combination of investment management fees, administration fees, and other expenses, but excluding Rule 12b-1 fees, acquired fund fees and expenses and certain non-routine expenses or costs, including those relating to litigation, indemnification, reorganizations and liquidations) for each class of the Fund do not exceed 0.65% until April 30, 2022. During its term, this fee waiver and expense

## FUND DETAILS

reimbursement agreement may not be terminated or amended without approval of the board of trustees except to add series or classes, to reflect the extension of termination dates or to lower the fee waiver and expenses limitation. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020, the management fees before and after such waivers were 0.80% and 0.57%, respectively.

Advisers compensates the sub-advisor for providing investment advice and analysis and for managing that portion of the Fund's assets allocated to it from time to time by Advisers. The separate portions of the Fund's assets managed by Advisers are allocated fees that are retained from, and not in addition to, the overall investment management fee paid to Advisers by the Fund.

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.

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 5 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 5	Year Ended December 31,				
	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Per share operating performance (for a share outstanding throughout the year)</b>					
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$12.59	\$10.80	\$11.65	\$10.07	\$9.67
Income from investment operations: <sup>a</sup>					
Net investment income <sup>b,c</sup>	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.17	0.16
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses)	1.86	1.70	(1.01)	1.41	0.29
Total from investment operations	2.09	1.93	(0.79)	1.58	0.45
Less distributions from:					
Net investment income and net foreign currency gains	(0.16)	—	(0.06)	—	(0.03)
Net realized gains	—	(0.14)	—	—	(0.02)
Total distributions	(0.16)	(0.14)	(0.06)	—	(0.05)
<b>Net asset value, end of year</b>	<b>\$14.52</b>	<b>\$12.59</b>	<b>\$10.80</b>	<b>\$11.65</b>	<b>\$10.07</b>
Total return <sup>d</sup>	16.78%	17.95%	(6.85%)	15.69%	4.59%
<b>Ratios to average net assets</b>					
Expenses before waiver and payments by affiliates <sup>e</sup>	1.03%	1.02%	1.00%	1.04%	1.15%
Expenses net of waiver and payments by affiliates <sup>e,f</sup>	0.80%	0.80%	0.65%	0.63%	0.63%
Net investment income <sup>e</sup>	1.70%	1.97%	1.95%	1.54%	1.60%
<b>Supplemental data</b>					
Net assets, end of year (000's)	\$195,818	\$185,381	\$171,173	\$188,240	\$124,581
Portfolio turnover rate	69.19%	4.99%	6.28%	5.69%	1.00%

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. Recognition of net investment income by the Fund is affected by the timing of declaration of dividends by the Underlying Funds and exchange traded funds in which the Fund invests.

d. 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.

e. Does not include expenses of the Underlying Funds in which the Fund invests. The weighted average indirect expenses of the Underlying Funds was 0.12% for the year ended December 31, 2020.

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

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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, the Fund generally pays no federal income tax on the income and gains it distributes to its shareholders. 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. The 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



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, ALL FUNDS

subject to federal income tax on the portion of its income and gains that it distributes to shareholders. Additionally, the 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 - Frequent Trading Policy,” below).

### **Frequent Trading Policy**

The board of trustees has adopted the following policies and procedures with respect to frequent trading (Frequent Trading Policy):

**Frequent trading generally.** The Fund discourages and does not intend to accommodate short-term or frequent purchases and redemptions of fund shares, often referred to as “frequent trading,” 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.

**Frequent trading 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 Frequent 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.

**Frequent trading 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 Frequent Trading Policy to their investors, the Fund is limited in its ability to monitor the trading activity or enforce the Fund’s Frequent 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 frequent trading 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 Frequent 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 Frequent 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 frequent trading. 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 Frequent Trading Policy.

**Risks from frequent trading.** 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

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, ALL FUNDS

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 frequent trading. These methods include:

- seeking the cooperation of Insurers and funds of funds to assist the Fund in identifying potential frequent trading 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 Frequent 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 frequent trading 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 frequent trading in Insurers' separate accounts. While the Fund will seek to take actions (directly and with the assistance of Insurers) that will detect frequent trading, it cannot represent that such trading activity can be minimized or completely eliminated.

**Revocation of frequent trading trades.** Transactions placed in violation of a Fund's Frequent 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 frequent trading), 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 frequent trading 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



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, ALL FUNDS

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 Fund's board of trustees, the investment manager monitors price movements by using a fair value pricing service offered through an independent pricing vendor.

The fair value pricing service is used to estimate the price of a security in a liquid market at the time of the NAV calculation (1 p.m. Pacific Time). If certain criteria are met, the foreign securities may be valued using the price from the fair value pricing services. The intended effect of applying fair value pricing is to compute an NAV that accurately reflects the value of the 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's business day. Furthermore, trading takes place in various foreign markets on days that are not business days for the Funds, and on which the Fund's NAV is not calculated (in which case, the NAV 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, 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 (as described above).

**SHARE CLASSES** Class 2 and Class 5 shares of the Fund are identical except that Class 2 and Class 5 each have a distribution plan or "rule 12b-1" plan, as described below for Class 5 shares and in the prospectus for Class 2 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 5 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 5 shares and provide services to shareholders and Contract Owners. Because these fees are paid out of Class 5'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. The maximum amount payable under the Fund's Class 5 rule 12b-1 plan is 0.15% per year of the Fund's Class 5 average daily net assets. 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). In certain circumstances, however, the Fund may not have the ability to delay a redemption request or may not have the time to determine whether a particular redemption would have an adverse effect on the Fund before the redemption request is paid.
- At any time, the Fund may establish or change investment minimums.
- 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.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, ALL FUNDS

- For redemptions over a certain amount, the Fund may, but is not required to, pay redemption proceeds in securities or other assets rather than cash (also known as a redemption in-kind) if the investment manager determines it is in the best interest of the Fund, consistent with applicable law. The investment manager will, in its sole discretion, determine whether a redemption in-kind will be considered for a particular redemption request or type of redemption request. In certain circumstances, however, the investment manager may not have the ability to determine whether a particular redemption could be paid in-kind before the redemption request is paid. If a redemption request is redeemed in-kind, 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).

