

Morgan Stanley

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Morgan Stanley Variable Insurance Fund, Inc.

Global Real Estate Portfolio

Prospectus | April 30, 2020

<u>Share Class</u>	<u>Ticker Symbol</u>
Class II	MGETX

Morgan Stanley Variable Insurance Fund, Inc. (the "Company") is a mutual fund that provides investment vehicles for variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies and for certain tax-qualified investors. In this prospectus, shares of the Global Real Estate Portfolio (the "Fund") are being offered.



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The Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") has not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this prospectus. An investor's purchase of securities may be subject to the securities laws of the investor's state.

December 31, 2020

Morgan Stanley Variable Insurance Fund, Inc.

Supplement dated
December 31, 2020
to the Morgan Stanley
Variable Insurance
Fund, Inc. Prospectus
dated April 30, 2020

**Global Real Estate
Portfolio (Class II)
(the "Fund")**

Effective January 1, 2021, Sven van Kemenade's title as portfolio manager of the Fund will be Managing Director of MSIM Fund Management (Ireland) Limited ("MSIM FMIL").

Also effective January 1, 2021, in rendering investment advisory services to the Fund, Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc. ("MSIM") will use the portfolio management, research and other resources of MSIM FMIL, a foreign (non-U.S.) affiliate of MSIM that is not registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, and may provide services to the Fund through a "participating affiliate" arrangement, as that term is used in relief granted by the staff of the SEC allowing U.S. registered investment advisers to use portfolio management or research resources of advisory affiliates subject to the regulatory supervision of the registered investment adviser.

December 7, 2020

Morgan Stanley Variable Insurance Fund, Inc.

Supplement dated December 7, 2020 to the Morgan Stanley Variable Insurance Fund, Inc. Prospectus dated April 30, 2020

The section of the Prospectus entitled “Fund Summary—Fund Management—Portfolio Managers” is hereby deleted and replaced with the following:

Portfolio Managers. The Fund is managed by members of the Global Listed Real Assets team. Information about the members jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund is shown below:

Global Real Estate Portfolio (Class II) (the “Fund”)	Name	Title with Adviser/Sub-Adviser(s)	Date Began Managing Fund
	Theodore R. Bigman	Managing Director of the Adviser	August 2006
	Laurel Durkay	Managing Director of the Adviser	December 2020
	Michiel te Paske	Managing Director of MSIM Limited	August 2006
	Sven van Kemenade	Managing Director of MSIM Limited	August 2006
	Angeline Ho	Managing Director of MSIM Company	August 2006
	Desmond Foong	Managing Director of MSIM Company	April 2015

The first and second paragraphs of the section of the Prospectus entitled “Fund Management—Portfolio Management” is hereby deleted and replaced with the following:

The Fund is managed by members of the Global Listed Real Assets team. The team consists of portfolio managers and analysts. Current members of the team jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund are Theodore R. Bigman, Michiel te Paske, Sven van Kemenade, Angeline Ho, Desmond Foong and Laurel Durkay.

Mr. Bigman has been associated with the Adviser in an investment management capacity since 1995. Ms. Durkay has been associated with the Adviser in an investment management capacity since December 2020. Prior to joining the Adviser, Ms. Durkay was a Senior Vice President and Global Portfolio Manager for Listed Real Estate at Cohen & Steers Capital Management. Mr. te Paske has been associated with MSIM Limited in an investment management capacity since 1997. Mr. van Kemenade has been associated with MSIM Limited in an investment management capacity since 1997. Ms. Ho has been associated with MSIM Company in an investment management capacity since 1997. Mr. Foong has been associated with MSIM Company in an investment management capacity since 2011.

Effective December 31, 2020, Theodore R. Bigman will no longer serve as a portfolio manager of the Fund. Accordingly, at such time, all references to Mr. Bigman will be removed from the Fund’s Prospectus.

Please retain this supplement for future reference.

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Global Real Estate Portfolio

Investment Objective

The Fund seeks to provide current income and capital appreciation.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund (Class II)

The table below describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold Class II shares of the Fund. The Fund does not charge any sales loads or other fees when you purchase or redeem shares. The table and the example below do not reflect the impact of any charges by your insurance company. If they did, Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses would be higher.

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

Advisory Fee	0.80%
Distribution (12S-1) Fee	0.25%
Other Expenses	0.59%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses*	1.64%
Fee Waiver and/or Expense Reimbursement*	0.39%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and/or Expense Reimbursement*	1.25%

Example

The example below 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, your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). 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
Global Real Estate Portfolio	\$127	\$479	\$855	\$1,911

* The Fund's "Adviser," Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc., has agreed to reduce its advisory fee and/or reimburse the Fund so that Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses, excluding certain investment related expenses, taxes, interest and other extraordinary expenses (including litigation), will not exceed 1.25%. The fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements will continue for at least one year or until such time as the Company's Board of Directors acts to discontinue all or a portion of such waivers and/or reimbursements when it deems such action is appropriate.

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 Total 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 24% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies

Under normal circumstances, at least 80% of the Fund's assets will be invested in equity securities of companies in the real estate industry, including real estate operating companies ("REOCs"), real estate investment trusts ("REITs") and similar entities established outside the United States ("foreign real estate companies"). This policy may be changed without shareholder approval; however, you would be notified in writing of any changes.

The Fund will invest primarily in companies located in the developed countries of North America, Europe and Asia, but may also invest in emerging markets.

The Adviser and/or the Fund's "Sub-Advisers," Morgan Stanley Investment Management Limited ("MSIM Limited") and Morgan Stanley Investment Management Company ("MSIM Company"), actively manage the Fund using a combination of top-down and bottom-up methodologies. The top-down portion seeks diversified exposure to all major asset classes with an overweighting to property markets that offer the best relative valuation. The Adviser's and/or Sub-Advisers' proprietary models drive the bottom-up value-driven approach for stock selection. The bottom-up research process strongly influences the Adviser's and/or Sub-Advisers' perspective on which property markets they believe provide better relative value and growth prospects and, consequently, affects their decision to overweight or underweight a given region, sector and/or country.

The Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers may consider information about environmental, social and governance issues (also referred to as ESG) in its bottom-up stock selection process when making investment decisions. The Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers may engage with company management regarding corporate governance practices as well as what the Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers deem to be materially important environmental and/or social issues facing a company.

Global Real Estate Portfolio (Con't)

The Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers generally consider selling a portfolio holding if the holding's share price shifts to the point where the position no longer represents an attractive relative value opportunity versus the underlying value of its assets and/or growth prospects or versus other securities in the investment universe.

Principal Risks

There is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective, and you can lose money investing in this Fund. The principal risks of investing in the Fund include:

- **Equity Securities.** In general, prices of equity securities are more volatile than those of fixed-income securities. The prices of equity securities fluctuate, and sometimes widely fluctuate, in response to activities specific to the issuer of the security as well as factors unrelated to the fundamental condition of the issuer, including general market, economic and political conditions.
- **REITs, REOCs and Foreign Real Estate Companies.** Investing in REITs, REOCs and foreign real estate companies exposes investors to the risks of owning real estate directly, as well as to risks that relate specifically to the way in which REITs, REOCs and foreign real estate companies are organized and operated. Operating REITs and foreign real estate companies requires specialized management skills and the Fund indirectly bears management expenses along with the direct expenses of the Fund. REITs are also subject to certain provisions under federal tax law and the failure of a company to qualify as a REIT could have adverse consequences for the Fund. In addition, foreign real estate companies may be subject to the laws, rules and regulations governing those entities and their failure to comply with those laws, rules and regulations could negatively impact the performance of those entities.
- **Small and Mid Cap Companies.** Investments in small and mid cap companies may involve greater risks than investments in larger, more established companies. The securities issued by small and mid cap companies may be less liquid and such companies may have more limited markets, financial resources and product lines, and may lack the depth of management of larger companies.
- **Foreign and Emerging Market Securities.** Investments in foreign markets entail special risks such as currency, political, economic and market risks. There also may be greater market volatility, less reliable financial information, higher transaction and custody costs, decreased market liquidity and less government and exchange regulation associated with investments in foreign markets. In addition, investments in certain foreign markets that have historically been considered stable may become more volatile and subject to increased risk due to ongoing developments and changing conditions in such markets. Moreover, the growing interconnectivity of global economies and financial markets has increased the probability that adverse developments and conditions in one country or region will affect the stability of economies and financial markets in other countries or regions. Certain foreign markets may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, organizations, entities and/or individuals, changes in international trading patterns, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Economic sanctions could, among other things, effectively restrict or eliminate the Fund's ability to purchase or sell securities or groups of securities for a substantial period of time, and may make the Fund's investments in such securities harder to value. The risks of investing in emerging market countries are greater than the risks associated with investments in foreign developed countries. In addition, the Fund's investments in foreign issuers may be denominated in foreign currencies and therefore, to the extent unhedged, the value of those investments will fluctuate with U.S. dollar exchange rates.
- **Value Stocks.** Value stocks are those stocks the Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers believe to be undervalued in comparison to their peers, due to market, company-specific or other factors. The prices of value stocks, therefore, may be below average in relation to other measures. Different investment styles (e.g., "growth", "value" or "quantitative") tend to shift in and out of favor depending upon market and economic conditions and investor sentiment. The Fund may outperform or underperform other funds that invest in similar asset classes but employ different investment styles.
- **Market and Geopolitical.** The value of your investment in the Fund is based on the market prices and values of the Fund's investments, which change daily due to economic and other events that affect markets generally, as well as those that affect particular regions, countries, industries, companies or governments. These events may be sudden and unexpected, and could adversely affect the liquidity of the Fund's investments, which may in turn impact valuation, the Fund's ability to sell securities and/or its ability to meet redemptions. The risks associated with these developments may be magnified if certain social, political, economic and other conditions and events (such as natural disasters, epidemics and pandemics, terrorism, conflicts and social unrest) adversely interrupt the global economy and financial markets. It is difficult to predict when events affecting the U.S. or global financial markets may occur, the effects that such events may have and the duration of those effects (which may last for extended periods).

Shares of the Fund are not bank deposits and are not guaranteed or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.

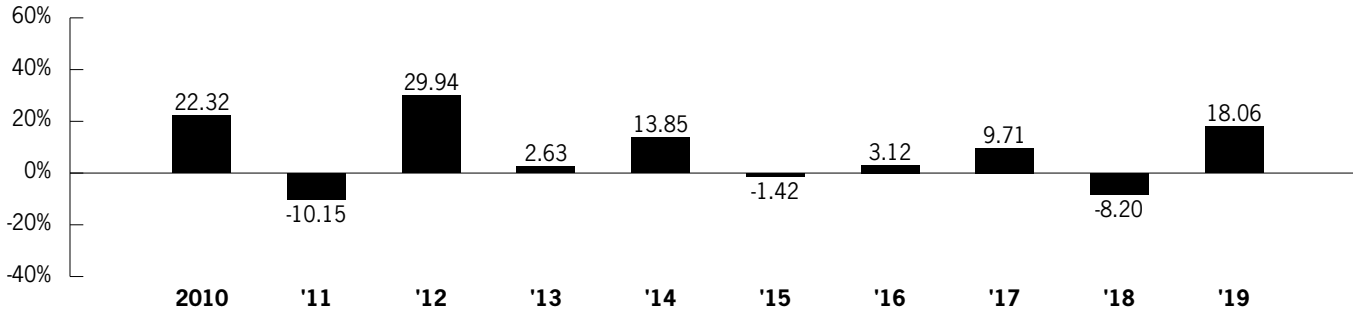
Global Real Estate Portfolio (Con't)

Performance and Risk

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing changes in the Fund's Class II shares' performance from year-to-year and by showing how the Fund's Class II shares' average annual returns for the past one, five and 10 year periods compare with those of a broad measure of market performance, as well as a comparative sector index, over time. This performance information does not include the impact of any charges deducted by your insurance company. If it did, returns would be lower. The Fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future.

Annual Total Returns—Calendar Years (Class II)

Commenced operations on April 28, 2006



High Quarter

09/30/10

19.40%

Low Quarter

09/30/11

-20.92%

Average Annual Total Return (Class II)

(for the calendar periods ended December 31, 2019)

	Past One Year	Past Five Years	Past Ten Years
Class II			
Return Separate Class	18.06%	3.86%	7.27%
FTSE EPRA Net Real Estate Index—Net Total Return to U.S. Investors (reflects net deductibles, fees, expenses, interest) ¹	22.70%	6.23%	8.96%
MSCI World Net Index (reflects net deductibles, fees, expenses, interest) ²	27.67%	8.74%	9.47%

⁽¹⁾ The FTSE EPRA Net Real Estate Index—Net Total Return to U.S. Investors is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index designed to reflect the stock performance of companies engaged in specific aspects of the major real estate markets/regions of the developed world. The performance of the Index is listed in U.S. dollars and assumes reinvestment of dividends. "Net Total Return to U.S. Investors" reflects a reduction in total returns after taking into account the withholding tax on dividends by certain foreign countries represented in the Index. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

⁽²⁾ The MSCI World Net Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the global equity market performance of developed markets. The term "free float" represents the portion of shares outstanding that are deemed to be available for purchase in the public equity markets by investors. The MSCI World Net Index currently consists of 23 developed market country indices. The performance of the Index is listed in U.S. dollars and assumes reinvestment of net dividends. Net total return indices reinvest dividends after the deduction of withholding taxes, using (for international indices) a tax rate applicable to non-resident institutional investors who do not benefit from double taxation treaties. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

Fund Manager

Advisor. Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc.

Sub-Advisors. Morgan Stanley Investment Management Limited and Morgan Stanley Investment Management Company.

Portfolio Managers. The Fund is managed by members of the Global Listed Real Assets team. Information about the members jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund is shown below:

Name	Title with Adviser/Sub-Adviser(s)	Date Began Managing Fund
Gherardo R. Bigon	Managing Director of the Adviser	April 2006
Michiel Peck	Managing Director of MSIM Limited	April 2006
Sven van Kempen de	Managing Director of MSIM Limited	April 2006
Angeline Hill	Managing Director of MSIM Company	April 2006
Desmond Flinn	Managing Director of MSIM Company	April 2015

Global Real Estate Portfolio (Con't)

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

The Prospectus offers Class II shares of the Fund. The Fund does not currently offer Class I shares but may do so in the future. Class II shares are subject to higher expenses due to the imposition of a 12b-1 fee.

The Fund offers its shares only to insurance companies (either directly or indirectly through other variable insurance funds) for separate accounts that they establish to fund variable life insurance and variable annuity contracts, and to other entities under qualified pension and retirement plans. An insurance company purchases or redeems shares of the Fund based on, among other things, the amount of net contract premiums or purchase payments allocated to a separate account investment division, transfers to or from a separate account investment division, contract loans and repayments, contract withdrawals and surrenders, and benefit payments. The contract prospectus describes how contract owners may allocate, transfer and withdraw amounts to, and from, separate accounts.

For more information, please refer to the section of the Prospectus entitled “Shareholder Information— Purchasing and Selling Fund Shares.”

Tax Information

Special tax rules apply to life insurance companies, variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance contracts. For information on federal income taxation of a life insurance company with respect to its receipt of distributions from the Fund and federal income taxation of owners of variable annuity or variable life insurance contracts, refer to the contract prospectus.

For more information, please refer to the section of the Prospectus entitled “Shareholder Information—Taxes.”

Payments to Insurance Companies and Other Financial Intermediaries

The Adviser and/or the Fund’s “Distributor,” Morgan Stanley Distribution, Inc., may pay insurance companies or their affiliates in connection with Fund-related administrative services that the insurance companies provide in connection with the issuance of their variable annuity contracts. These payments, which may be significant in amount, may create a conflict of interest by influencing the insurance company to recommend one variable annuity or variable life insurance contract over another or be a factor in an insurance company’s decision to include the Fund as an underlying investment option in its variable annuity or variable life insurance contracts. Shareholders should ask their salesperson or visit their insurance company’s web site for more information.

Global Real Estate Portfolio

Investment Objectives

The Fund seeks to provide current income and capital appreciation.

Approach

The Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers seek a combination of current income and capital appreciation by investing primarily in equity securities of companies in the real estate industry located throughout the world, including REOCs, REITs and foreign real estate companies. The Fund will invest primarily in companies located in the developed countries of North America, Europe and Asia, but may also invest in emerging markets. The Adviser's and/or Sub-Advisers' approach emphasizes a bottom-up stock selection with a top-down global allocation.

Process

The Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers actively manage the Fund using a combination of top-down and bottom-up methodologies. The top-down portion seeks diversified exposure to all major asset classes with an overweighting to property markets that offer the best relative valuation. The Adviser's and/or Sub-Advisers' proprietary models drive the bottom-up value-driven approach for stock selection. The bottom-up research process strongly influences the Adviser's and/or Sub-Advisers' perspective on which property markets they believe provide better relative value and growth prospects and, consequently, affects their decision to overweight or underweight a given region, sector and/or country.

The Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers may consider information about environmental, social and governance issues (also referred to as ESG) in its bottom-up stock selection process when making investment decisions. The Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers may engage with company management regarding corporate governance practices as well as what the Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers deem to be materially important environmental and/or social issues facing a company.

The Adviser and Sub-Advisers generally consider selling a portfolio holding if the holding's share price shifts to the point where the position no longer represents an attractive relative value opportunity versus the underlying value of its assets and/or growth prospects or versus other securities in the investment universe.

Under normal circumstances, at least 80% of the Fund's assets will be invested in equity securities of companies in the real estate industry, including REOCs, REITs and foreign real estate companies. This policy may be changed without shareholder approval; however, you would be notified in writing of any changes.

A company is considered to be in the real estate industry if it (i) derives at least 50% of its revenues or profits from the ownership, construction, management, financing or sale of residential, commercial or industrial real estate or (ii) has at least 50% of the fair market value of its assets invested in residential, commercial or industrial real estate.

The percentage limitations relating to the composition of the Fund apply at the time the Fund acquires an investment. Subsequent percentage changes that result from market fluctuations generally will not require the Fund to sell any portfolio security. However, the Fund may be required to reduce its borrowings, if any, in response to fluctuations in the value of such holdings.

Risks

An investment in the Fund is subject to risks, and you could lose money on your investment in the Fund. There is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective. Investing in the Fund may be appropriate for you if you are willing to accept the risks and uncertainties of investing in a portfolio of equity securities of real estate companies located throughout the world, including companies located in emerging market or developing countries. In general, prices of equity securities are more volatile than those of fixed income securities. The prices of equity securities will rise and fall in response to a number of factors. In particular, prices of equity securities fluctuate, and sometimes widely fluctuate, in response to activities specific to the issuer of the security as well as factors unrelated to the fundamental condition of the issuer, including general market, economic and political conditions.

In addition, at times, small and mid cap equity securities may underperform relative to the overall market. Investments in small and mid cap companies may involve greater risk than investments in larger, more established companies. The securities issued by small and mid cap companies may be less liquid and their prices subject to more abrupt or erratic price movements. In addition, small and mid cap companies may have more limited markets, financial resources and product lines, and may lack the depth of management of larger companies. The Adviser's and/or Sub-Advisers' perception that a stock is under- or over-valued may not be accurate or may not be realized.

Investing in real estate companies entails the risks of the real estate business generally, including sensitivity to economic and business cycles, changing demographic patterns and government actions. In addition, at times the Fund's market sector, global real estate securities, may underperform relative to other sectors or the overall market.

Investing in the securities of foreign issuers, particularly those located in emerging market or developing countries, entails the risk that news and events unique to a country or region will affect those markets and their issuers. The value of the Fund's shares may vary widely in response to political and economic factors affecting companies in foreign countries. In addition, investments in certain

Global Real Estate Portfolio (Con't)

foreign markets, which have historically been considered stable, may become more volatile and subject to increased risk due to ongoing developments and changing conditions in such markets. Although these events will not necessarily have an effect on the U.S. economy or similar issuers located in the United States, the growing interconnectivity of global economies and financial markets has increased the probability that adverse developments and conditions in one country or region will affect the stability of economies and financial markets in other countries or regions. Certain foreign markets may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, organizations, entities and/or individuals, changes in international trading patterns, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Economic sanctions could, among other things, effectively restrict or eliminate the Fund's ability to purchase or sell securities or groups of securities for a substantial period of time, and may make the Fund's investments in such securities harder to value.

The Fund's investments in foreign issuers may be denominated in foreign currencies and therefore, to the extent unhedged, the value of the investment will fluctuate with the U.S. dollar exchange rates. These changes may occur separately from and in response to events that do not otherwise affect the value of the security in the issuer's home country.

Investing in REITs, REOCs and foreign real estate companies exposes investors to the risks of owning real estate directly, as well as to risks that relate specifically to the way in which REITs, REOCs and foreign real estate companies are organized and operated. REITs and similar non-U.S. entities generally invest directly in real estate, in mortgages or in some combination of the two. REOCs and similar non-U.S. entities generally are engaged directly in real estate management or development activities. The REITs in which the Fund will primarily invest are equity REITs and similar non-U.S. entities. Operating REITs and foreign real estate companies requires specialized management skills and the Fund indirectly bears management expenses along with the direct expenses of the Fund. Individual REITs and similar non-U.S. entities may own a limited number of properties and may concentrate in a particular region or property type. REITs may also be subject to heavy cash flow dependency, default by borrowers and self-liquidation.

REITs also must satisfy specific requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, in order to qualify for tax-free pass-through income. The failure of a company to qualify as a REIT could have adverse consequences for the Fund, including significantly reducing the return to the Fund on its investment in such company. Foreign real estate companies may be subject to the laws, rules and regulations governing those entities and their failure to comply with those laws, rules and regulations could negatively impact the performance of those entities. In addition, REITs, REOCs and foreign real estate companies, like mutual funds, have expenses, including management and administration fees, that are paid by their shareholders. As a result, shareholders will absorb their proportionate share of duplicate levels of fees when the Fund invests in REITs, REOCs and foreign real estate companies.

Value stocks are those believed to be undervalued in comparison to their peers, due to market, company-specific or other factors. The prices of value stocks, therefore, may be below average in relation to other measures. Different investment styles (e.g., "growth", "value" or "quantitative") tend to shift in and out of favor depending upon market and economic conditions and investor sentiment. The Fund may outperform or underperform other funds that invest in similar asset classes but employ different investment styles.

Please see "Additional Risk Factors and Information" for further information about these and other risks of investing in the Fund.

Additional Risk Factors and Information

This section discusses additional risk factors and information relating to the Fund. The Fund's investment practices and limitations are described in more detail in the Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"), which is incorporated by reference and legally is a part of this Prospectus. For details on how to obtain a copy of the SAI and other reports and information, see the back cover of this Prospectus.

Market and Geopolitical Risk

The value of your investment in the Fund is based on the market prices of the securities the Fund holds. These prices change daily due to economic and other events that affect markets generally, as well as those that affect particular regions, countries, industries, companies or governments. These price movements, sometimes called volatility, may be greater or less depending on the types of securities the Fund owns and the markets in which the securities trade. Volatility and disruption in financial markets and economies may be sudden and unexpected, expose the Fund to greater risk, including risks associated with reduced market liquidity and fair valuation, and adversely affect the Fund's operations. For example, the Adviser potentially will be prevented from executing investment decisions at an advantageous time or price as a result of any domestic or global market disruptions and reduced market liquidity may impact the Fund's ability to sell securities to meet redemptions.

The increasing interconnectivity between global economies and financial markets increases the likelihood that events or conditions in one region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. Securities in the Fund's portfolio may underperform due to inflation (or expectations for inflation), interest rates, global demand for particular products or resources, natural disasters, health emergencies (such as epidemics and pandemics), terrorism, regulatory events and governmental or quasi-governmental actions. The occurrence of global events similar to those in recent years, such as terrorist attacks around the world, natural disasters, health emergencies, social and political discord or debt crises and downgrades, among others, may result in market volatility and may have long term effects on both the U.S. and global financial markets. Other financial, economic and other global market and social developments or disruptions may result in similar adverse circumstances, and it is difficult to predict when similar events affecting the U.S. or global financial markets may occur, the effects that such events may have and the duration of those effects (which may last for extended periods). In general, the securities or other instruments that the Adviser believes represent an attractive investment opportunity or in which the Fund seeks to invest may be unavailable entirely or in the specific quantities sought by the Fund. As a result, the Fund may need to obtain the desired exposure through a less advantageous investment, forgo the investment at the time or seek to replicate the desired exposure through a derivative transaction or investment in another investment vehicle. Any such event(s) could have a significant adverse impact on the value and risk profile of the Fund's portfolio. There is a risk that you may lose money by investing in the Fund.

Social, political, economic and other conditions and events, such as natural disasters, health emergencies (e.g., the novel coronavirus outbreak, epidemics and other pandemics), terrorism, conflicts and social unrest, could reduce consumer demand or economic output, result in market closures, travel restrictions or quarantines, and generally have a significant impact on the economies and financial markets and the Adviser's investment advisory activities and services of other service providers, which in turn could adversely affect the Fund's investments and other operations.

Equity Securities

Equity securities may include common and preferred stocks, convertible securities and equity-linked securities, REITs, rights and warrants to purchase common stocks, depositary receipts, shares of investment companies, limited partnership interests and other specialty securities having equity features. The Fund may invest in equity securities that are publicly traded on securities exchanges or over-the-counter ("OTC") or in equity securities that are not publicly traded. Securities that are not publicly traded may be more difficult to value or sell and their value may fluctuate more dramatically than other securities. The prices of convertible securities are affected by changes similar to those of equity and fixed-income securities.

A depositary receipt is generally issued by a bank or financial institution and represents the common stock or other equity securities of a foreign company. Depositary receipts involve many of the same risks as those associated with direct investment in foreign securities. In addition, the underlying issuers of certain depositary receipts, particularly unsponsored or unregistered depositary receipts, are under no obligation to distribute shareholder communications to the holders of such receipts, or to pass through to them any voting rights with respect to the deposited securities.

A convertible security is a bond, debenture, note, preferred stock, right, warrant or other security that may be converted into or exchanged for a prescribed amount of common stock or other security of the same or a different issuer or into cash within a particular period of time at a specified price or formula. A convertible security generally entitles the holder to receive interest paid or accrued on debt securities or the dividend paid on preferred stock until the convertible security matures or is redeemed, converted or exchanged. Before conversion, convertible securities generally have characteristics similar to both debt and equity securities. The value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates rise and, because of the conversion feature, tends to vary with fluctuations in the market value of the underlying securities. Convertible securities ordinarily provide a stream of income with generally higher yields than those of common stock of the same or similar issuers. Convertible securities generally rank senior to common stock in a

Additional Risk Factors and Information (Con't)

corporation's capital structure but are usually subordinated to other comparable nonconvertible fixed-income securities in such capital structure. Convertible securities generally do not participate directly in any dividend increases or decreases of the underlying securities although the market prices of convertible securities may be affected by any dividend changes or other changes in the underlying securities.

Real Estate Investments

The Fund invests in companies in the real estate industry. As a result, these companies (and, therefore, the Funds) will experience the risks of investing in real estate directly. Real estate is a cyclical business, highly sensitive to general and local economic developments and characterized by intense competition and periodic overbuilding. Real estate income and values may also be greatly affected by demographic trends, such as population shifts or changing tastes and values. Government actions, such as tax increases, zoning law changes or environmental regulations, may also have a major impact on real estate markets. Changing interest rates and credit quality requirements will also affect the cash flow of real estate companies and their ability to meet capital needs.

Foreign Investments

To the extent that the Fund invests in foreign issuers, there is the risk that news and events unique to a country or region will affect those markets and their issuers. These same events will not necessarily have an effect on the U.S. economy or similar issuers located in the United States. In addition, some of the Fund's securities, including underlying securities represented by depositary receipts, may be denominated in foreign currencies. As a result, changes in the value of a country's currency compared to the U.S. dollar may affect the value of the Fund's investments. These changes may happen separately from, and in response to, events that do not otherwise affect the value of the security in the issuer's home country. These risks may be intensified for the Fund's investments in securities of issuers located in emerging market or developing countries.

Foreign Securities

Foreign issuers generally are subject to different accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards than U.S. issuers. There may be less information available to the public about foreign issuers. Securities of foreign issuers can be less liquid and experience greater price movements. In addition, the prices of such securities may be susceptible to influence by large traders, due to the limited size of many foreign securities markets. Moreover, investments in certain foreign markets that have historically been considered stable may become more volatile and subject to increased risk due to ongoing developments and changing conditions in such markets. Also, the growing interconnectivity of global economies and financial markets has increased the probability that adverse developments and conditions in one country or region will affect the stability of economies and financial markets in other countries or regions. In some foreign countries, there is also the risk of government expropriation, excessive taxation, political or social instability, the imposition of currency controls or diplomatic developments that could affect the Fund's investment. There also can be difficulty obtaining and enforcing judgments against issuers in foreign countries. Foreign stock exchanges, broker-dealers and listed issuers may be subject to less government regulation and oversight. The cost of investing in foreign securities, including brokerage commissions and custodial expenses, can be higher than the cost of investing in domestic securities.

Certain foreign markets may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, organizations, entities and/or individuals, changes in international trading patterns, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Economic sanctions could, among other things, effectively restrict or eliminate the Fund's ability to purchase or sell securities or groups of securities for a substantial period of time, and may make the Fund's investments in such securities harder to value. International trade barriers or economic sanctions against foreign countries, organizations, entities and/or individuals may adversely affect the Fund's foreign holdings or exposures. Investments in foreign markets may also be adversely affected by governmental actions such as the imposition of capital controls, nationalization of companies or industries, expropriation of assets or the imposition of punitive taxes. Governmental actions can have a significant effect on the economic conditions in foreign countries, which also may adversely affect the value and liquidity of the Fund's investments. For example, the governments of certain countries may prohibit or impose substantial restrictions on foreign investing in their capital markets or in certain sectors or industries. In addition, a foreign government may limit or cause delay in the convertibility or repatriation of its currency which would adversely affect the U.S. dollar value and/or liquidity of investments denominated in that currency. Any of these actions could severely affect security prices, impair the Fund's ability to purchase or sell foreign securities or transfer the Fund's assets back into the United States, or otherwise adversely affect the Fund's operations. Certain foreign investments may become less liquid in response to market developments or adverse investor perceptions, or become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. Certain foreign investments may become illiquid when, for instance, there are few, if any, interested buyers and sellers or when dealers are unwilling to make a market for certain securities. When the Fund holds illiquid investments, its portfolio may be harder to value.

In connection with its investments in foreign securities, the Fund also may enter into contracts with banks, brokers or dealers to purchase or sell securities or foreign currencies at a future date. A foreign currency forward exchange contract is a negotiated agreement between the contracting parties to exchange a specified amount of currency at a specified future time at a specified rate. The rate can be higher or lower than the spot rate between the currencies that are the subject of the contract. Foreign currency forward exchange contracts may be used to protect against uncertainty in the level of future foreign currency exchange rates or to gain or modify exposure to a particular currency. In addition, the Fund may use cross currency hedging or proxy hedging with respect to

Additional Risk Factors and Information (Con't)

currencies in which the Fund has or expects to have portfolio or currency exposure. Cross currency and proxy hedges involve the sale of one currency against the positive exposure to a different currency and may be used for hedging purposes or to establish an active exposure to the exchange rate between any two currencies.

Emerging Market Securities

The Fund may invest in emerging market or developing countries, which are countries that major international financial institutions generally consider to be less economically mature than developed nations (such as the United States or most nations in Western Europe). Emerging market or developing countries may be more likely to experience political turmoil or rapid changes in economic conditions than more developed countries, and the financial condition of issuers in emerging market or developing countries may be more precarious than in other countries. In addition, emerging market securities generally are less liquid and subject to wider price and currency fluctuations than securities issued in more developed countries. These characteristics result in greater risk of price volatility in emerging market or developing countries, which may be heightened by currency fluctuations relative to the U.S. dollar.

Foreign Currency

Investments in foreign securities may be denominated in foreign currencies. The value of foreign currencies may fluctuate relative to the value of the U.S. dollar. Since the Fund may invest in such non-U.S. dollar-denominated securities, and therefore may convert the value of such securities into U.S. dollars, changes in currency exchange rates can increase or decrease the U.S. dollar value of the Fund's assets. Currency exchange rates may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time for a number of reasons, including changes in interest rates and the overall economic health of the issuer. Devaluation of a currency by a country's government or banking authority also will have a significant impact on the value of any investments denominated in that currency. The Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers may use derivatives to reduce this risk. The Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers may in their discretion choose not to hedge against currency risk. In addition, certain market conditions may make it impossible or uneconomical to hedge against currency risk.

Liquidity

The Fund may make investments that are illiquid or restricted or that may become less liquid in response to overall economic conditions or adverse investor perceptions, and which may entail greater risk than investments in other types of securities. These investments may be more difficult to value or sell, particularly in times of market turmoil, and there may be little trading in the secondary market available for particular securities. If the Fund is forced to sell an illiquid or restricted security to fund redemptions or for other cash needs, it may be forced to sell the security at a loss or for less than its fair value.

Investment Discretion

In pursuing the Fund's investment objective, the Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers have considerable leeway in deciding which investments they buy, hold or sell on a day-to-day basis, and which trading strategies they use. For example, the Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers, in their discretion, may determine to use some permitted trading strategies while not using others. The success or failure of such decisions will affect the Fund's performance.

Large Shareholder Transactions Risk

The Fund may experience adverse effects when certain large shareholders purchase or redeem large amounts of shares of the Fund. Such large shareholder redemptions may cause the Fund to sell portfolio securities at times when it would not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund's net asset value per share ("NAV") and liquidity. Similarly, large Fund share purchases may adversely affect the Fund's performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would. These transactions may also increase transaction costs. In addition, a large redemption could result in the Fund's current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, leading to an increase in the Fund's expense ratio. Although large shareholder transactions may be more frequent under certain circumstances, the Fund is generally subject to the risk that a large shareholder can purchase or redeem a significant percentage of Fund shares at any time.

Temporary Defensive Investments

When the Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers believe that changes in market, economic, political or other conditions warrant, the Fund may invest without limit in cash, cash equivalents or other fixed-income securities for temporary defensive purposes that may be inconsistent with the Fund's principal investment strategies. If the Adviser and/or Sub-Advisers incorrectly predict the effects of these changes, such defensive investments may adversely affect the Fund's performance and the Fund may not achieve its investment objective.

Fund Management

Adviser

Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc., with principal offices at 522 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10036, conducts a worldwide portfolio management business and provides a broad range of portfolio management services to customers in the United States and abroad. Morgan Stanley (NYSE: “MS”) is the parent of the Adviser, who is the parent of the Distributor. Morgan Stanley is a preeminent global financial services firm engaged in securities trading and brokerage activities, as well as providing investment banking, research and analysis, financing and financial advisory services. As of December 31, 2019, the Adviser, together with its affiliated asset management companies, had approximately \$552 billion in assets under management or supervision.

Sub-Advisers

The Adviser has entered into Sub-Advisory Agreements with each of MSIM Limited, located at 25 Cabot Square, Canary Wharf, London, E14 4QA, England, and MSIM Company, located at 23 Church Street, 16-01 Capital Square, Singapore 049481. Both MSIM Limited and MSIM Company are wholly owned subsidiaries of Morgan Stanley. MSIM Limited and MSIM Company provide the Fund with investment advisory services subject to the overall supervision of the Adviser and the Company’s officers and Directors. The Adviser pays MSIM Limited and MSIM Company on a monthly basis a portion of the net advisory fees the Adviser receives from the Fund.

Advisory Fee

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019, the Adviser received a fee for advisory services (net of fee waivers, if applicable) equal to 0.41% of the Fund’s average daily net assets.

The Adviser has agreed to reduce its advisory fee and/or reimburse the Fund, if necessary, if such fees would cause the total annual operating expenses of the Fund to exceed 1.25% of average daily net assets. In determining the actual amount of fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement for the Fund, if any, the Adviser excludes from total annual operating expenses certain investment related expenses, taxes, interest and other extraordinary expenses (including litigation) (but includes any 12b-1 fee paid to the Distributor). The fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements for the Fund will continue for at least one year or until such time as the Company’s Board of Directors acts to discontinue all or a portion of such waivers and/or reimbursements when it deems such action is appropriate. The Adviser may make additional voluntary fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements. The Adviser may discontinue these voluntary fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements at any time in the future.

The Fund’s annual operating expenses may vary throughout the period and from year to year. The Fund’s actual expenses for the most recent fiscal year may be different than the expenses listed in the Fund’s fee and expense table based upon the extent and amount of a fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement.

A discussion regarding the Board of Directors’ approval of the investment advisory and sub-advisory agreements is available in the Fund’s Semi-Annual Report to Shareholders for the period ended June 30, 2019.

Portfolio Management

The Fund is managed by members of the Global Listed Real Assets team. The team consists of portfolio managers and analysts. Current members of the team jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund are Theodore R. Bigman, Michiel te Paske, Sven van Kemenade, Angeline Ho and Desmond Foong.

Mr. Bigman has been associated with the Adviser in an investment management capacity since 1995. Mr. te Paske has been associated with MSIM Limited in an investment management capacity since 1997. Mr. van Kemenade has been associated with MSIM Limited in an investment management capacity since 1997. Ms. Ho has been associated with MSIM Company in an investment management capacity since 1997. Mr. Foong has been associated with MSIM Company in an investment management capacity since 2011.

Together, the team determines the investment strategy, establishes asset-allocation frameworks and directs the implementation of investment strategy.

The Fund’s SAI provides additional information about the portfolio managers’ compensation structure, other accounts managed by the portfolio managers and the portfolio managers’ ownership of securities in the Fund.

The composition of the team may change from time to time.

Fund Management (Con't)

Distribution Plan

The Company has adopted a Plan of Distribution (the “Plan”) for the Fund’s Class II shares pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”). Under the Plan, the Fund is authorized to pay the Distributor a monthly 12b-1 fee at an annual rate of 0.25% of the Fund’s average daily net assets attributable to Class II shares. Such amount shall be paid to compensate the Distributor for remittances to insurance companies which offer the Company as an investment option. These payments are intended to compensate insurance companies for distribution and/or administrative-related expenses incurred or paid in connection with the distribution of Class II shares of the Fund.

Since the 12b-1 fees associated with the Plan are paid out of the Fund’s assets on an on-going basis, over time these fees will increase the cost of your investment.

The Adviser and/or the Distributor may pay additional compensation (out of their own funds and not as an expense of the Fund) to certain affiliated or unaffiliated brokers, dealers and/or certain insurance companies or other financial intermediaries or service providers in connection with the sale, distribution, marketing and/or retention of shares of the Fund and/or shareholder servicing. Such compensation may be significant in amount and the prospect of receiving any such additional compensation may provide such affiliated or unaffiliated entities with an incentive to favor sales of the Fund’s shares over other investment options. Any such payments will not change the NAV or the price of the Fund’s shares. For more information, please see the Fund’s SAI.

Shareholder Information

Share Class

This Prospectus offers Class II shares of the Fund. The Fund does not currently offer Class I shares but may do so in the future. Class II shares are subject to higher expenses due to the imposition of a 12b-1 fee.

Purchasing and Selling Fund Shares

Shares are offered on each day that the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") is open for business except as noted below.

The Fund offers its shares only to insurance companies (and other funds that serve as underlying investment options for variable insurance and annuity contracts (i.e., variable insurance funds)) for separate accounts that they establish to fund variable life insurance and variable annuity contracts, and to other entities under qualified pension and retirement plans. An insurance company purchases or redeems shares of the Fund based on, among other things, the amount of net contract premiums or purchase payments allocated to a separate account investment division, transfers to or from a separate account investment division, contract loans and repayments, contract withdrawals and surrenders, and benefit payments. The contract prospectus describes how contract owners may allocate, transfer and withdraw amounts to, and from, separate accounts.

The Fund normally makes payment for all shares redeemed within one business day of receipt of the request, and in no event more than seven days after receipt of a redemption request in good order (other than as set forth below). However, contract owners who allocate a portion of their contract to the Fund through the variable life insurance or variable annuity contracts previously described do not deal directly with the Fund to purchase and redeem shares. Please refer to the prospectus of the variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for information on the allocation, transfer and withdrawal of amounts to, and from, separate accounts.

The Fund typically expects to meet redemption requests by using a combination of sales of securities held by the Fund and/or holdings of cash and cash equivalents. On a less regular basis, the Fund also reserves the right to use borrowings to meet redemption requests, and the Fund may use these methods during both normal and stressed market conditions.

The Company may suspend redemption privileges or postpone the date of payment for more than seven days (i) during any period that the NYSE is closed other than customary week-end and holiday closings, or trading on the NYSE is restricted as determined by the SEC, (ii) during any period when an emergency exists as defined by the rules of the SEC as a result of which it is not reasonably practicable for the Fund to dispose of securities owned by it, or fairly to determine the value of its assets and (iii) for such other periods as the SEC may permit.

The Fund currently does not foresee disadvantages to variable product contract owners or qualified plan participants arising out of the fact that the Fund offers its shares to separate accounts of various insurance companies that offer different types of variable annuity and variable life insurance products and various other entities under qualified pension and retirement plans. Nevertheless material irreconcilable conflicts may possibly arise among the interests of these investors. The Board of Directors that oversees the Fund intends to monitor events to identify any such material irreconcilable conflicts and to determine what action, if any, should be taken in response.

Pricing of Fund Shares

The price per share will be the NAV next determined after the Company or the insurance company receives a shareholder's purchase or redemption order in good order. NAV is the value of one share's portion of all of the net assets in the Fund. The Company determines the NAV for the Fund as of the close of the NYSE (normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) on each day that the NYSE is open for business. Shares will generally not be priced on days that the NYSE is closed. The Fund may elect to remain open and price its shares on days when the NYSE is closed but the primary securities markets on which the Fund's securities trade remain open. If the NYSE is closed due to inclement weather, technology problems or any other reason on a day it would normally be open for business, or the NYSE has an unscheduled early closing on a day it has opened for business, the Fund reserves the right to treat such day as a business day and accept purchase and redemption orders until, and calculate its NAV as of, the normally scheduled close of regular trading on the NYSE for that day, so long as the Adviser believes there generally remains an adequate market to obtain reliable and accurate market quotations.

Trading of securities that are primarily listed on foreign exchanges may take place on weekends and other days when the Fund does not price its shares. Therefore, to the extent, if any, that the Fund invests in securities primarily listed on foreign exchanges, the value of the Fund's securities may change on days when shareholders will not be able to purchase or sell shares.

How the Fund's Value is Determined

The NAV of the Fund is determined by dividing the total of the value of the Fund's investments and other assets, less any liabilities, by the total number of outstanding shares of the Fund. In making this calculation, the Fund generally values securities at market price. If market prices are unavailable or may be unreliable because of events occurring after the close of trading, the value for those securities will be determined in good faith at fair value using methods approved by the Board of Directors. In addition, with respect to securities that primarily are listed on foreign exchanges, when an event occurs after the close of such exchanges that is likely to have changed the value of the securities (e.g., a percentage change in value of one or more U.S. securities indices in excess of specified

Shareholder Information (Con't)

thresholds), such securities will be valued at their fair value, as determined under procedures established by the Company's Board of Directors. Securities also may be fair valued in the event of a significant development affecting a country or region or an issuer specific development that is likely to have changed the value of the security. In these cases, the Fund's NAV will reflect certain portfolio securities' fair value rather than their market price. To the extent the Fund invests in open-end management companies (other than exchange-traded funds) that are registered under the 1940 Act, the Fund's NAV is calculated based, in relevant part, upon the NAV of such funds. The prospectuses for such funds explain the circumstances under which they will use fair value pricing and its effects.

Fair value pricing involves subjective judgments and it is possible that the fair value determined for a security is materially different than the value that could be realized upon the sale of that security.

Dividends and Distributions

The Fund distributes its net investment income, if any, at least annually as dividends and makes distributions of its net realized capital gains, if any, at least annually.

Taxes

The Fund expects that it will not have to pay federal income taxes if it distributes annually all of its net investment income and net realized capital gains. The Fund does not expect to be subject to federal excise taxes with respect to undistributed income.

Special tax rules apply to life insurance companies, variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance contracts. For information on federal income taxation of a life insurance company with respect to its receipt of distributions from the Fund and federal income taxation of owners of variable annuity or variable life insurance contracts, refer to the contract prospectus.

Because each investor's tax circumstances are unique and the tax laws may change, shareholders should consult a tax advisor about the federal, state and local tax consequences applicable to their investment.

Frequent Purchases and Redemptions or Shares

Frequent purchases and redemptions of shares pursuant to the instructions of insurance company contract owners or qualified plan participants is referred to as "market-timing" or "short-term trading" and may present risks for other contract owners or participants with long-term interests in the Fund, which may include, among other things, dilution in the value of the Fund's shares indirectly held by contract owners or participants with long-term interests in the Fund, interference with the efficient management of the Fund, increased brokerage and administrative costs and forcing the Fund to hold excess levels of cash.

In addition, the Fund is subject to the risk that market-timers and/or short-term traders may take advantage of time zone differences between the foreign markets on which the Fund's securities trade and the time the Fund's NAV is calculated ("time-zone arbitrage"). For example, a market-timer may submit instructions for the purchase of shares of the Fund based on events occurring after foreign market closing prices are established, but before the Fund's NAV calculation that are likely to result in higher prices in foreign markets the following day. The market-timer would submit instructions to redeem the Fund's shares the next day when the Fund's share price would reflect the increased prices in foreign markets for a quick profit at the expense of contract owners or participants with long-term interests in the Fund.

Investments in other types of securities also may be susceptible to short-term trading strategies. These investments include securities that are, among other things, thinly traded, traded infrequently or relatively illiquid, which have the risk that the current market price for the securities may not accurately reflect current market values. A contract owner may seek to engage in short-term trading to take advantage of these pricing differences (referred to as "price-arbitrage"). The Fund's policies with respect to valuing portfolio securities are described above in "About Net Asset Value."

The Company's Board of Directors has adopted policies and procedures to discourage frequent purchases and redemptions of Fund shares by Fund shareholders. Insurance companies or qualified plans generally do not provide specific contract owner or plan participant transaction instructions to the Fund on an ongoing basis. Therefore, to some extent, the Fund relies on the insurance companies and qualified plans to monitor frequent short-term trading by contract owners. However, the Fund has entered into agreements with insurance companies and qualified plans whereby the insurance companies and qualified plans are required to provide certain contract owner identification and transaction information upon the Fund's request. The Fund may use this information to help identify and prevent market-timing activity in the Fund. There can be no assurance that the Fund will be able to identify or prevent all market-timing activity.

If the Fund identifies suspected market-timing activity, the insurance company or qualified plan will be contacted and asked to take steps to prevent further market-timing activity (e.g., sending warning letters or blocking frequent trading by underlying contract owners or participants). Insurance companies may be prohibited by the terms of the underlying insurance contract from restricting short-term trading of mutual fund shares by contract owners, thereby limiting the ability of such insurance company to implement remedial steps to prevent market-timing activity in the Fund. If the insurance company or qualified plan is unwilling or unable to

Shareholder Information (Con't)

take remedial steps to discourage or prevent frequent trading, or does not take action promptly, certain contract owners or participants may be able to engage in frequent trading to the detriment of contract owners or participants with long-term interests in the Fund. If the insurance company or qualified plan refuses to take remedial action, or takes action that the Fund deems insufficient, a determination will be made whether it is appropriate to terminate the relationship with such insurance company or qualified plan.

Portfolio Holdings Information

A description of the Company's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the Fund's securities is available in the Fund's SAI.

Shareholder Information (Con't)

Potential Conflicts of Interest

As a diversified global financial services firm, Morgan Stanley, the parent company of the Adviser, engages in a broad spectrum of activities, including financial advisory services, investment management activities, lending, commercial banking, sponsoring and managing private investment funds, engaging in broker-dealer transactions and principal securities, commodities and foreign exchange transactions, research publication and other activities. In the ordinary course of its business, Morgan Stanley is a full-service investment banking and financial services firm and therefore engages in activities where Morgan Stanley's interests or the interests of its clients may conflict with the interests of the Fund. Morgan Stanley has advised clients and has sponsored, managed or advised other investment funds and investment programs, accounts and businesses (collectively, together with any new or successor funds, programs, accounts or businesses, the "Affiliated Investment Accounts") with a wide variety of investment objectives that in some instances may overlap or conflict with the Fund's investment objectives and present conflicts of interest. In addition, Morgan Stanley may also from time to time create new or successor Affiliated Investment Accounts that may compete with the Fund and present similar conflicts of interest. The discussion below enumerates certain actual, apparent and potential conflicts of interest. There is no assurance that conflicts of interest will be resolved in favor of Fund shareholders and, in fact, they may not be. Conflicts of interest not described below may also exist.

For more information about conflicts of interest, see the section entitled "Potential Conflicts of Interest" in the SAI.

Material Nonpublic Information. It is expected that confidential or material nonpublic information regarding an investment or potential investment opportunity may become available to the Adviser. If such information becomes available, the Adviser may be precluded (including by applicable law or internal policies or procedures) from pursuing an investment or disposition opportunity with respect to such investment or investment opportunity.

Investments by Morgan Stanley and its Affiliated Investment Accounts. In serving in multiple capacities to Affiliated Investment Accounts, Morgan Stanley, including the Adviser and the Investment team, may have obligations to other clients or investors in Affiliated Investment Accounts, the fulfillment of which may not be in the best interests of the Fund or its shareholders. The Fund's investment objectives may overlap with the investment objectives of certain Affiliated Investment Accounts. As a result, the members of an Investment team may face conflicts in the allocation of investment opportunities among the Fund and other investment funds, programs, accounts and businesses advised by or affiliated with the Adviser. Certain Affiliated Investment Accounts may provide for higher management or incentive fees or greater expense reimbursements or overhead allocations, all of which may contribute to this conflict of interest and create an incentive for the Adviser to favor such other accounts.

Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries. The Adviser and/or the Distributor may pay compensation, out of their own funds and not as an expense of the Fund, to certain Financial Intermediaries (which may include affiliates of the Adviser and Distributor), including recordkeepers and administrators of various deferred compensation plans, in connection with the sale, distribution, marketing and retention of shares of the Fund and/or shareholder servicing. The prospect of receiving, or the receipt of, additional compensation, as described above, by Financial Intermediaries may provide such Financial Intermediaries and their financial advisors and other salespersons with an incentive to favor sales of shares of the Fund over other investment options with respect to which these Financial Intermediaries do not receive additional compensation (or receives lower levels of additional compensation). These payment arrangements, however, will not change the price that an investor pays for shares of the Fund or the amount that the Fund receives to invest on behalf of an investor. Investors may wish to take such payment arrangements into account when considering and evaluating any recommendations relating to Fund shares and should review carefully any disclosures provided by Financial Intermediaries as to their compensation.

Morgan Stanley Trading and Principal Investing Activities. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, Morgan Stanley will generally conduct its sales and trading businesses, publish research and analysis, and render investment advice without regard for the Fund's holdings, although these activities could have an adverse impact on the value of one or more of the Fund's investments, or could cause Morgan Stanley to have an interest in one or more portfolio investments that is different from, and potentially adverse to, that of the Fund.

Morgan Stanley's Investment Banking Activities. Morgan Stanley advises clients on a variety of mergers, acquisitions and financing transactions. Morgan Stanley may act as an advisor to clients, including other investment funds that may compete with the Fund and with respect to investments that the Fund may hold. Morgan Stanley may give advice and take action with respect to any of its clients or proprietary accounts that may differ from the advice given, or may involve an action of a different timing or nature than the action taken, by the Fund. Morgan Stanley may give advice and provide recommendations to persons competing with the Fund and/or any of the Fund's investments that are contrary to the Fund's best interests and/or the best interests of any of its investments.

General Process for Potential Conflicts. All of the transactions described above involve the potential for conflicts of interest between the Adviser, related persons of the Adviser and/or their clients. The Investment Advisers Act of 1940, the 1940 Act and ERISA impose certain requirements designed to decrease the possibility of conflicts of interest between an investment adviser and its clients. In some cases, transactions may be permitted subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. Certain other transactions may be prohibited. In addition, the Adviser has instituted policies and procedures designed to prevent conflicts of interest from arising and, when they do

Shareholder Information (Con't)

arise, to ensure that it effects transactions for clients in a manner that is consistent with its fiduciary duty to its clients and in accordance with applicable law. The Adviser seeks to ensure that potential or actual conflicts of interest are appropriately resolved taking into consideration the overriding best interests of the client.

Financial Highlights

The financial highlights table that follows is intended to help you understand the financial performance of the Fund's Class II shares for the past five years. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned (or lost) on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). In addition, this performance information does not include the impact of any charges by your insurance company. If it did, returns would be lower.

The ratios of expenses to average net assets listed in the table below for Class II shares are based on the average net assets of the Fund for each of the periods listed in the table. To the extent that the Fund's average net assets decrease over the Fund's next fiscal year, such expense ratios can be expected to increase, potentially significantly, because certain fixed costs will be spread over a smaller amount of assets.

The information below has been derived from the financial statements audited by Ernst & Young LLP, the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm. Ernst & Young LLP's report, along with the Fund's financial statements, are incorporated by reference into the Fund's SAI. The Annual Report to Shareholders (which includes the Fund's financial statements) and SAI are available at no cost from the Company at the toll-free number noted on the back cover to this Prospectus or from your insurance company.

Global Real Estate Portfolio

Selected Per Share Data and Ratios	Class II				
	Year Ended December 31,				
	2019	2018	2017	2016 ⁽¹⁾	2015
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$ 9.87	\$ 11.09	\$ 10.36	\$ 10.18	\$ 10.57
Income (Loss) from Operations:					
Net Investment Income ⁽²⁾	0.18	0.25	0.24	0.16	0.14
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)	1.58	(1.13)	0.75	0.16	(0.29)
Total from Investment Operations	1.76	(0.88)	0.99	0.32	(0.15)
Distributions Paid or in Excess of:					
Net Investment Income	(0.29)	(0.34)	(0.26)	(0.14)	(0.24)
Net Realized Gain	(0.54)	—	—	—	—
Total Distributions	(0.83)	(0.34)	(0.26)	(0.14)	(0.24)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$ 10.80	\$ 9.87	\$ 11.09	\$ 10.36	\$ 10.18
Total Return⁽³⁾	18.06%	(8.20)%	9.71%	3.12%	(1.42)%
Ratio to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data:					
Net Assets, End of Period (Gross)	\$ 70,426	\$ 66,751	\$ 83,625	\$ 86,247	\$ 94,884
Ratio of Expenses Before Expense Limitation	1.64%	1.66%	1.69%	1.60%	1.67%
Ratio of Expenses After Expense Limitation	1.25% ⁽⁴⁾	1.33% ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾	1.40% ⁽⁴⁾	1.40% ⁽⁴⁾	1.40% ⁽⁴⁾
Ratio of Net Investment Income	1.67% ⁽⁴⁾	2.37% ⁽⁴⁾	2.26% ⁽⁴⁾	1.54% ⁽⁴⁾	1.80% ⁽⁴⁾
Ratio of Revenues from Morgan Stanley Affiliates	0.00% ⁽⁶⁾	0.00% ⁽⁶⁾	0.00% ⁽⁶⁾	0.00% ⁽⁶⁾	0.00% ⁽⁶⁾
Portfolio Turnover Rate	24%	36%	34%	24%	26%

(1) Reflects prior period custodian out-of-pocket expenses that were reimbursed in September 2016. The amount of the reimbursement was immaterial on a per share basis and did not impact the total return of Class II shares. The Ratio of Expenses After Expense Limitation and the Ratio of Net Investment Income would be unchanged as the reimbursement of custodian fees was offset against expense waivers/reimbursements with no impact to net expenses or net investment income.

(2) Per share amount is based on average shares outstanding.

(3) Calculated based on the net asset value as of the last business day of the period. Performance does not reflect fees and expenses imposed by your insurance company's separate account. If performance information included the effect of these additional charges, the total return would be lower.

(4) The Ratio of Expenses After Expense Limitation and Ratio of Net Investment Income reflect the rebate of certain Fund expenses in connection with the investments in Morgan Stanley affiliates during the period. The effect of the rebate on the ratios is disclosed in the above table as "Ratio of Rebate from Morgan Stanley Affiliates."

(5) Effective July 1, 2018, the Adviser has agreed to limit the ratio of expenses to average net assets to the maximum ratio of 1.25% for Class II shares. Prior to July 1, 2018, the maximum ratio was 1.40% for Class II shares.

(6) Amount is less than 0.005%.

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Where to Find Additional Information

See Additional Information

In addition to this Prospectus, the Fund has an SAI, dated April 30, 2020 (as may be supplemented from time to time), which contains additional, more detailed information about the Company and the Fund. The SAI is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus and, therefore, legally forms a part of this Prospectus.

Shareholder Reports

The Company publishes Annual and Semi-Annual Reports (“Shareholder Reports”) containing financial statements. These reports contain additional information about the Fund’s investments. In the Fund’s Shareholder Reports, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and the investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund’s performance during that period. For additional Company information, including information regarding the investments comprising the Fund, and to make shareholder inquiries, please call 1-800-548-7786 or contact your insurance company.

You may obtain the SAI and Shareholder Reports without charge by contacting the Company at the toll-free number above or your insurance company or on our web site at www.morganstanley.com/im.

Shareholder Reports and other information about the Company are available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC’s Internet site at <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.

To aid you in obtaining this information, the Company’s 1940 Act registration number is 811-7607.

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Variable Product Funds

70100 Ameriprise Financial Center
Minneapolis, MN 55474

PRSRT STD
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RIVERSOURCE
LIFE INSURANCE
COMPANY