

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

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Janus Aspen Series

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Portfolio management perspective
- Investment strategy behind your portfolio
- Portfolio performance, characteristics and holdings

**Janus Henderson**  
— INVESTORS —

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# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio (unaudited)

## PORTFOLIO SNAPSHOT

We believe that the best way to generate consistent excess returns is stock picking based on independent research. We focus the risks of the Portfolio on what we feel are our strengths – research and stock selection – and seek to avoid unnecessary risks, specifically macro risks and other portfolio biases. Therefore, we let sector experts drive the process and pick their best ideas and use a portfolio oversight team to monitor the risk of the Portfolio and keep it focused on stock selection.

Team-Based Approach  
Led by Matthew Peron,  
Director of Research

## PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

For the 12-month period ending December 31, 2021, the Janus Henderson Global Research Portfolio's Institutional Shares and Service Shares returned 18.09% and 17.80%, respectively, while its primary benchmark, the MSCI World Index<sup>SM</sup>, returned 21.82%. The Portfolio's secondary benchmark, the MSCI All Country World Index<sup>SM</sup>, returned 18.54%.

## MARKET ENVIRONMENT

The approval and rollout of COVID-19 vaccines at the start of the period, as well as ongoing accommodative policies from central banks around the world, put the global economy firmly on a path to recovery. While fiscal and monetary programs supported the recovery, increasing expectations for growth and inflation pushed global bond yields higher, with the widely watched 10-year U.S. Treasury yield rising sharply in March. This fueled a rotation out of technology stocks, where high valuations were supported by the notion that growth and cost of capital will remain low, and into stocks that generally perform well in a rising rate environment. Despite continued growth in the global economy, the yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note pulled back in August. In November, after several months of describing the inflationary environment as “transitory,” the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) acknowledged that inflation was a greater concern than originally thought and announced that it would aggressively dial back its large-scale bond buying in response to rising inflation. The Fed also indicated it may raise interest rates as many as three times in 2022. While the European Central Bank kept its monetary policy unchanged, in December, the Bank of England raised interest rates – the first major central bank to increase rates since the start of the pandemic. Although rising consumer prices, persistent inflation, supply chain bottlenecks and the emergence of new variants of the COVID-19 virus fueled market volatility in the final months

of the reporting period, markets finished the period with strong gains.

## PERFORMANCE DISCUSSION

Our seven global sector teams employ a bottom-up, fundamental approach to identify what we consider the best global opportunities. Our analysts take a long-term view of companies with a focus on value creation and duration of growth, which may lead to high returns on invested capital. The Portfolio directly captures the insights of our teams through their highest-conviction ideas. In building a diversified portfolio, we seek to minimize macroeconomic risks while generating strong performance over longer periods.

On an individual stock basis, relative detractors included select China-based holdings, which declined following the government's announcement that it will increase regulatory oversight in a number of industries. Detractors included resorts developer and operator Sands China, which also suffered from a slower-than-expected recovery in travel. Although we have revised our earnings estimates for Sands and other China-based holdings based on known and expected regulatory changes, we maintained our position in the company, as we believe China is committed to sustaining access to foreign investor capital.

Latin America-based e-commerce retailer MercadoLibre also struggled. The stock traded lower amid global logistics headwinds. Adding to weakness was the company's decision to sell one million shares at a discount of approximately 5% to its closing price, thereby diluting the value of the stock for existing shareholders. Nonetheless, we remain impressed with growth trends in MercadoLibre's e-commerce marketplace and payments network. Given that e-commerce and digital banking penetration in Latin America still is low, we remain upbeat in our outlook for the company.

## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio (unaudited)

Notable detractors also included Fidelity National Information Services (FIS), a provider of software solutions for the financial services industry. It appears the market has decided FIS is now “legacy” tech and thus a secular share donor to new fintech competitors. Our research suggests differently – FIS is well positioned to grow across both its Merchant and Banking segments and trades at a favorable valuation.

Although we are disappointed in the performance of these stocks, a number of our holdings delivered solid results, including semiconductor companies ASML Holding and Nvidia. ASML's stock gained on optimism around expanding capital investment plans across the industry, driven by long-term secular demand for chips. Particularly notable are sizable investments planned by Samsung and Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company. Broadening adoption of extreme ultraviolet lithography (EUV) across device types along with accelerated investment in upgrading leading-edge semiconductor manufacturing continue to support our positive long-term outlook for ASML. Nvidia's stock jumped following an announcement by social media giant Meta Platforms (formerly Facebook), which also is a Portfolio holding, that it will significantly increase its capital spending plans for 2022 as it bolsters its data center network and infrastructure. As a leading producer of graphics processing units used in data centers, we believe Nvidia could benefit.

Alternative asset management firm Blackstone Group also contributed. Performance in the company's portfolios has been strong as a result of economic reopening, and Blackstone has been favorably positioned to capture capital migrating to alternatives, a long-term secular trend we believe is likely to continue.

### OUTLOOK

Our outlook for 2022 is framed around our belief that the economic recovery will continue. With that said, the persistence of above-average inflation and shifting monetary policy could fuel market volatility. COVID-19 remains a risk to derail the expansion in 2022, but a lesser one than in 2021 given that we now have a broader set of tools that make it less likely outbreaks will be as disruptive as they were earlier in the pandemic. Notably, global supply chain disruptions remain an overhang from the pandemic, but we are optimistic they will stabilize by mid-2022. Greater concerns are inflation and Fed policy. While our view is that inflation will moderate, we are mindful that if it runs too hot for too

long, central bankers globally may respond by scaling back the massive liquidity programs they introduced during the pandemic more aggressively and more quickly than initially projected. Against this backdrop, investors could find themselves navigating the market's choppy waters in the first half of 2022 before finding solid footing in the second half.

Despite the potential for a bumpy start to 2022, we believe any market volatility would indicate a transition to the mid-cycle stage of the economic cycle – a stage in which we feel we are positioned to participate. Specifically, our holdings include companies believed to be driving or benefiting from secular growth trends such as e-commerce, cloud computing, digital payments and health care innovation. Furthermore, we are optimistic that a transition to the mid-cycle stage will likely favor our investment strategy of emphasizing quality and growth at a reasonable price and also allow broader sector participation in market gains.

Thank you for your investment in Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio.

**Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio (unaudited)**  
**Portfolio At A Glance**  
**December 31, 2021**

**5 Top Contributors - Holdings**

	<b>Average Weight</b>	<b>Relative Contribution</b>
ASML Holding NV	2.74%	0.80%
Blackstone Group Inc	1.05%	0.59%
Ferguson PLC	1.69%	0.48%
NVIDIA Corp	0.96%	0.42%
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd	0.88%	0.39%

**5 Top Detractors - Holdings**

	<b>Average Weight</b>	<b>Relative Contribution</b>
Sands China Ltd	0.69%	-0.62%
Unilever PLC	1.45%	-0.47%
MercadoLibre Inc	1.00%	-0.40%
Fidelity National Information Services Inc	0.91%	-0.40%
Uber Technologies Inc	1.09%	-0.40%

**2 Top Contributors - Sectors\***

	<b>Relative Contribution</b>	<b>Portfolio Average Weight</b>	<b>MSCI World Index Average Weight</b>
Energy	0.95%	6.07%	5.87%
Technology	0.73%	18.83%	18.68%

**5 Top Detractors - Sectors\***

	<b>Relative Contribution</b>	<b>Portfolio Average Weight</b>	<b>MSCI World Index Average Weight</b>
Financials	-2.04%	18.09%	18.26%
Consumer	-1.02%	16.01%	16.11%
Healthcare	-0.79%	12.32%	12.54%
Communications	-0.63%	10.56%	10.50%
Industrials	-0.37%	17.12%	17.16%

Relative contribution reflects how the portfolio's holdings impacted return relative to the benchmark. Cash and securities not held in the portfolio are not shown. For equity portfolios, relative contribution compares the performance of a security in the portfolio to the benchmark's total return, factoring in the difference in weight of that security in the benchmark. Returns are calculated using daily returns and previous day ending weights rolled up by ticker, excluding fixed income securities, gross of advisory fees, may exclude certain derivatives and will differ from actual performance. Performance attribution reflects returns gross of advisory fees and may differ from actual returns as they are based on end of day holdings. Attribution is calculated by geometrically linking daily returns for the portfolio and index.

\* The sectors listed above reflect those covered by the six analyst teams who comprise the Janus Henderson Research Team.

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio (unaudited)

## Portfolio At A Glance

### December 31, 2021

#### 5 Largest Equity Holdings - (% of Net Assets)

Microsoft Corp	
Software	5.0%
Alphabet Inc - Class C	
Interactive Media & Services	3.4%
Amazon.com Inc	
Internet & Direct Marketing Retail	3.2%
Apple Inc	
Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals	2.9%
ASML Holding NV	
Semiconductor & Semiconductor Equipment	<u>2.8%</u>
	17.3%

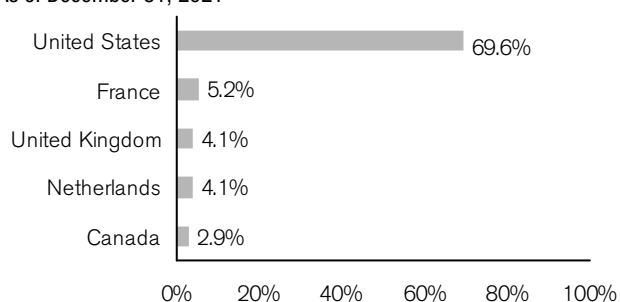
#### Asset Allocation - (% of Net Assets)

Common Stocks	99.6%
Preferred Stocks	0.2%
Investment Companies	0.1%
Other	<u>0.1%</u>
	100.0%

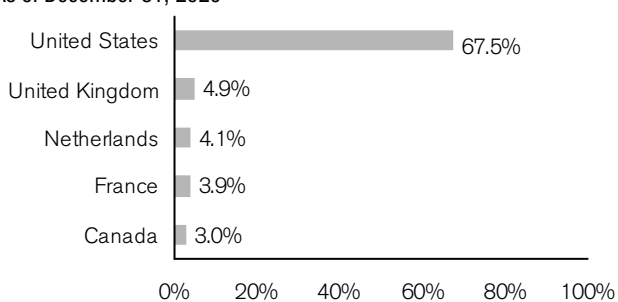
Emerging markets comprised 5.0% of total net assets.

#### Top Country Allocations - Long Positions - (% of Investment Securities)

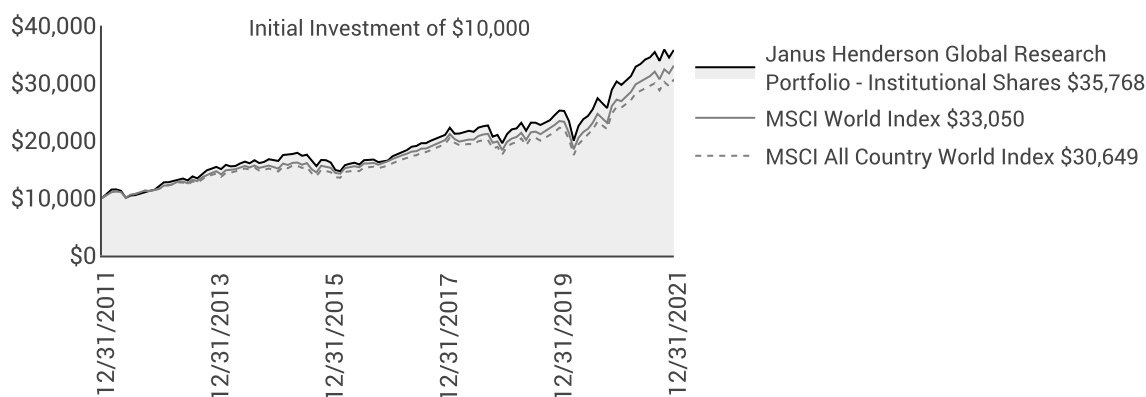
As of December 31, 2021



As of December 31, 2020



## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio (unaudited) Performance



Average Annual Total Return - for the periods ended December 31, 2021	Prospectus Expense Ratios				
	One Year	Five Year	Ten Year	Since Inception*	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>†</sup>
Institutional Shares	18.09%	16.70%	13.59%	9.23%	0.84%
Service Shares	17.80%	16.41%	13.31%	8.95%	1.09%
MSCI World Index	21.82%	15.03%	12.70%	8.02%	
MSCI All Country World Index	18.54%	14.40%	11.85%	N/A**	
Morningstar Quartile - Institutional Shares	2nd	3rd	3rd	2nd	
Morningstar Ranking - based on total returns for World Large Stock Funds	89/361	221/303	153/225	62/92	

Returns quoted are past performance and do not guarantee future results; current performance may be lower or higher. Investment returns and principal value will vary; there may be a gain or loss when shares are sold. For the most recent month-end performance call 800.668.0434 or visit [janushenderson.com/VITperformance](http://janushenderson.com/VITperformance).

This Portfolio has a performance-based management fee that may adjust up or down based on the Portfolio's performance.

Performance may be affected by risks that include those associated with foreign and emerging markets, fixed income securities, high-yield and high-risk securities, undervalued, overlooked and smaller capitalization companies, real estate related securities including Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors, non-diversification, portfolio turnover, derivatives, short sales, initial public offerings (IPOs) and potential conflicts of interest. Each product has different risks. Please see the prospectus for more information about risks, holdings and other details.

Returns do not reflect the deduction of fees, charges or expenses of any insurance product or qualified plan. If applied, returns would have been lower.

Returns include reinvestment of all dividends and distributions and do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Portfolio distributions or redemptions of Portfolio shares. The returns do not include adjustments in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles required at the period end for financial reporting purposes.

Performance for Service Shares prior to December 31, 1999 reflects the performance of Institutional Shares adjusted to reflect the expenses of Service Shares.

Ranking is for the share class shown only; other classes may have different performance characteristics.

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There is no assurance that the investment process will consistently lead to successful investing.

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information for index definitions.

Index performance does not reflect the expenses of managing a portfolio as an index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment.

See important disclosures on the next page.

## **Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio (unaudited) Performance**

See "Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report."

\*The Portfolio's inception date – September 13, 1993

\*\*Since inception return is not shown for the index because the index's inception date differs significantly from the Portfolio's inception date.

‡ As stated in the prospectus. See Financial Highlights for actual expense ratios during the reporting period.



## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio (unaudited) Expense Examples

As a shareholder of the Portfolio, you incur two types of costs: (1) transaction costs and (2) ongoing costs, including management fees; 12b-1 distribution and shareholder servicing fees (applicable to Service Shares only); transfer agent fees and expenses payable pursuant to the Transfer Agency Agreement; and other Portfolio expenses. This example is intended to help you understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Portfolio and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other funds. The example is based upon an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the period and held for the six-months indicated, unless noted otherwise in the table and footnotes below.

### Actual Expenses

The information in the table under the heading "Actual" provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in these columns, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the appropriate column for your share class under the heading entitled "Expenses Paid During Period" to estimate the expenses you paid on your account during the period.

### Hypothetical Example for Comparison Purposes

The information in the table under the heading "Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)" provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based upon the Portfolio's actual expense ratio and an assumed rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Portfolio's actual return. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. You may use this information to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Portfolio and other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other funds. Additionally, for an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in either share class or other similar funds, please visit [www.finra.org/fundalyzer](http://www.finra.org/fundalyzer).

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transaction costs, such as any charges at the separate account level or contract level. These fees are fully described in the Portfolio's prospectuses. Therefore, the hypothetical examples are useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different funds. In addition, if these transaction costs were included, your costs would have been higher.

	Actual			Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)			Net Annualized Expense Ratio (7/1/21 - 12/31/21)
	Beginning Account Value (7/1/21)	Ending Account Value (12/31/21)	Expenses Paid During Period (7/1/21 - 12/31/21)†	Beginning Account Value (7/1/21)	Ending Account Value (12/31/21)	Expenses Paid During Period (7/1/21 - 12/31/21)†	
Institutional Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,048.60	\$4.03	\$1,000.00	\$1,021.27	\$3.97	0.78%
Service Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,047.30	\$5.32	\$1,000.00	\$1,020.01	\$5.24	1.03%

† Expenses Paid During Period are equal to the Net Annualized Expense Ratio multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 184/365 (to reflect the one-half year period). Expenses in the examples include the effect of applicable fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements, if any. Had such waivers and/or reimbursements not been in effect, your expenses would have been higher. Please refer to the Notes to Financial Statements or the Portfolio's prospectuses for more information regarding waivers and/or reimbursements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio**  
**Schedule of Investments**  
**December 31, 2021**

	<i>Shares</i>	<i>Value</i>
Common Stocks– 99.6%		
Aerospace & Defense – 1.3%		
Airbus SE*	73,380	\$9,386,037
L3Harris Technologies Inc	10,383	2,214,071
		11,600,108
Air Freight & Logistics – 1.3%		
United Parcel Service Inc	56,865	12,188,444
Airlines – 0.6%		
Ryanair Holdings PLC (ADR)*	52,677	5,390,437
Auto Components – 1.0%		
Aptiv PLC*	54,741	9,029,528
Banks – 4.2%		
BNP Paribas SA	119,699	8,280,806
Citigroup Inc	141,885	8,568,435
HDFC Bank Ltd	188,132	3,744,442
JPMorgan Chase & Co	113,690	18,002,811
		38,596,494
Beverages – 3.7%		
Constellation Brands Inc	75,101	18,848,098
Pernod Ricard SA	60,313	14,521,589
		33,369,687
Biotechnology – 2.1%		
AbbVie Inc	72,370	9,798,898
Ascendis Pharma A/S (ADR)*	16,620	2,235,889
Sarepta Therapeutics Inc*	27,478	2,474,394
Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc*	22,892	5,027,083
		19,536,264
Building Products – 2.0%		
Assa Abloy AB	283,877	8,680,043
Daikin Industries Ltd	40,400	9,164,733
		17,844,776
Capital Markets – 3.4%		
Apollo Global Management Inc	115,933	8,397,027
Blackstone Group Inc	75,164	9,725,470
London Stock Exchange Group PLC	39,707	3,723,891
Morgan Stanley	96,228	9,445,740
		31,292,128
Chemicals – 2.1%		
Air Products & Chemicals Inc	26,273	7,993,823
Sherwin-Williams Co	32,113	11,308,914
		19,302,737
Consumer Finance – 1.6%		
Nexi SpA (144A)*	351,373	5,596,016
OneMain Holdings Inc	79,065	3,956,413
Synchrony Financial	116,085	5,385,183
		14,937,612
Electric Utilities – 0.3%		
NextEra Energy Inc	27,359	2,554,236
Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components – 1.7%		
Hexagon AB - Class B	958,632	15,244,934
Entertainment – 3.2%		
Liberty Media Corp-Liberty Formula One*	178,241	11,271,961
Netflix Inc*	22,694	13,671,773
Sea Ltd (ADR)*	16,791	3,756,315
		28,700,049
Health Care Equipment & Supplies – 3.3%		
Abbott Laboratories	57,016	8,024,432
Boston Scientific Corp*	175,069	7,436,931
Danaher Corp	8,698	2,861,729
Dentsply Sirona Inc	56,785	3,168,035

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information and Notes to Financial Statements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio**  
**Schedule of Investments**  
**December 31, 2021**

	<i>Shares</i>	<i>Value</i>
Common Stocks– (continued)		
Health Care Equipment & Supplies– (continued)		
DexCom Inc*	6,214	\$3,336,607
Edwards Lifesciences Corp*	40,433	5,238,095
		30,065,829
Health Care Providers & Services – 1.6%		
Centene Corp*	61,280	5,049,472
Humana Inc	13,900	6,447,654
UnitedHealth Group Inc	5,617	2,820,520
		14,317,646
Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure – 2.5%		
GVC Holdings PLC*	417,037	9,498,508
McDonald's Corp	34,644	9,287,017
Sands China Ltd*	1,774,400	4,132,598
		22,918,123
Household Durables – 0.5%		
Roku Inc*	17,676	4,033,663
Independent Power and Renewable Electricity Producers – 1.5%		
NRG Energy Inc	181,085	7,801,142
Vistra Energy Corp	259,554	5,910,045
		13,711,187
Industrial Conglomerates – 0.6%		
Honeywell International Inc	27,756	5,787,404
Information Technology Services – 4.2%		
Fidelity National Information Services Inc	60,393	6,591,896
Mastercard Inc	44,171	15,871,524
One 97 Communications Ltd*	82,212	1,476,076
Visa Inc	65,360	14,164,166
		38,103,662
Insurance – 3.5%		
AIA Group Ltd	692,200	6,977,662
Aon PLC - Class A	23,758	7,140,704
Beazley PLC*	685,562	4,326,223
Intact Financial Corp	29,997	3,899,515
Progressive Corp	58,772	6,032,946
Prudential PLC	223,828	3,860,566
		32,237,616
Interactive Media & Services – 5.8%		
Alphabet Inc - Class C*	10,749	31,103,199
Facebook Inc*	28,943	9,734,978
Match Group Inc*	26,375	3,488,094
Snap Inc - Class A*	100,305	4,717,344
Tencent Holdings Ltd	71,600	4,194,642
		53,238,257
Internet & Direct Marketing Retail – 5.6%		
Amazon.com Inc*	8,739	29,138,797
Booking Holdings Inc*	3,495	8,385,309
DoorDash Inc - Class A*	22,207	3,306,622
Meituan Dianping (144A)*	91,000	2,630,577
MercadoLibre Inc*	5,801	7,822,068
		51,283,373
Life Sciences Tools & Services – 0.9%		
Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc	12,885	8,597,387
Machinery – 2.5%		
Alstom SA	273,311	9,713,659
Parker-Hannifin Corp	28,933	9,204,166
Sany Heavy Industry Co Ltd	1,050,448	3,767,475
		22,685,300
Metals & Mining – 2.0%		
Freeport-McMoRan Inc	126,931	5,296,831

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information and Notes to Financial Statements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio**  
**Schedule of Investments**  
**December 31, 2021**

	Shares	Value
Common Stocks– (continued)		
Metals & Mining– (continued)		
Rio Tinto PLC	77,525	\$5,132,452
Teck Resources Ltd	281,719	8,114,345
		18,543,628
Multi-Utilities – 0.2%		
RWE AG	52,324	2,127,675
Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels – 4.2%		
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd	204,238	8,631,026
Cheniere Energy Inc	23,116	2,344,425
ConocoPhillips	99,088	7,152,172
EOG Resources Inc	56,348	5,005,393
Marathon Petroleum Corp	113,544	7,265,681
Suncor Energy Inc	240,752	6,024,510
Total SE	28,294	1,437,521
		37,860,728
Personal Products – 1.3%		
Unilever PLC	213,531	11,438,249
Pharmaceuticals – 4.9%		
AstraZeneca PLC	95,240	11,184,993
Catalent Inc*	50,087	6,412,639
Eli Lilly & Co	10,333	2,854,181
Horizon Therapeutics PLC*	39,403	4,246,067
Novartis AG	85,326	7,520,004
Roche Holding AG	20,376	8,480,120
Sanofi	42,792	4,315,102
		45,013,106
Road & Rail – 1.3%		
Full Truck Alliance Co (ADR)*	295,341	2,472,004
Uber Technologies Inc*	231,334	9,699,835
		12,171,839
Semiconductor & Semiconductor Equipment – 8.7%		
Advanced Micro Devices Inc*	58,401	8,403,904
ASML Holding NV	31,862	25,633,090
Marvell Technology Inc	84,334	7,378,382
NVIDIA Corp	57,953	17,044,557
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd	615,000	13,675,561
Texas Instruments Inc	39,815	7,503,933
		79,639,427
Software – 8.9%		
Adobe Inc*	26,437	14,991,365
Autodesk Inc*	26,646	7,492,589
Microsoft Corp	136,344	45,855,214
SS&C Technologies Holdings Inc	48,958	4,013,577
Workday Inc - Class A*	31,102	8,496,444
		80,849,189
Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals – 2.9%		
Apple Inc	146,791	26,065,678
Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods – 1.8%		
adidas AG	22,954	6,616,296
NIKE Inc - Class B	56,919	9,486,690
		16,102,986
Trading Companies & Distributors – 2.0%		
Ferguson PLC	103,761	18,402,121
Wireless Telecommunication Services – 0.4%		
T-Mobile US Inc*	34,200	3,966,516
<b>Total Common Stocks (cost \$538,725,391)</b>		<b>908,748,023</b>
Preferred Stocks– 0.2%		
Health Care Providers & Services – 0.2%		
API Holdings Private Ltd PP*,c.\$ (cost \$2,347,416)	3,231,470	2,331,837

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information and Notes to Financial Statements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio**  
**Schedule of Investments**  
**December 31, 2021**

	<i>Shares</i>	<i>Value</i>
Investment Companies – 0.1%		
Money Markets – 0.1%		
Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC, 0.0570% <sup>00</sup> (cost \$963,925)	963,829	\$963,925
Total Investments (total cost \$542,036,732) – 99.9%		912,043,785
Cash, Receivables and Other Assets, net of Liabilities – 0.1%		731,261
Net Assets – 100%		\$912,775,046

**Summary of Investments by Country - (Long Positions) (unaudited)**

<i>Country</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>% of Investment Securities</i>
United States	\$634,884,299	69.6 %
France	47,654,714	5.2
United Kingdom	37,726,633	4.1
Netherlands	37,071,339	4.1
Canada	26,669,396	2.9
Sweden	23,924,977	2.6
Taiwan	17,431,876	1.9
Switzerland	16,000,124	1.8
China	13,064,698	1.4
Hong Kong	11,110,260	1.2
Japan	9,164,733	1.0
Germany	8,743,971	1.0
Argentina	7,822,068	0.9
India	7,552,355	0.8
Italy	5,596,016	0.6
Ireland	5,390,437	0.6
Denmark	2,235,889	0.3
Total	\$912,043,785	100.0 %

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information and Notes to Financial Statements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio**  
**Schedule of Investments**  
**December 31, 2021**

*Schedules of Affiliated Investments – (% of Net Assets)*

	<i>Dividend Income</i>	<i>Realized Gain/(Loss)</i>	<i>Change in Unrealized Appreciation/ Depreciation</i>	<i>Value at 12/31/21</i>
Investment Companies - 0.1%				
Money Markets - 0.1%				
Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC, 0.0570%	\$ 1,041	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 963,925
Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending - N/A				
Investment Companies - N/A				
Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, 0%	8,849 <sup>A</sup>	-	-	-
<b>Total Affiliated Investments - 0.1%</b>	<b>\$ 9,890</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 963,925</b>

	<i>Value at 12/31/20</i>	<i>Purchases</i>	<i>Sales Proceeds</i>	<i>Value at 12/31/21</i>
Investment Companies - 0.1%				
Money Markets - 0.1%				
Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC, 0.0570%	3,707,498	64,075,119	(66,818,692)	963,925
Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending - N/A				
Investment Companies - N/A				
Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, 0%	1,691,642	64,939,484	(66,631,126)	-

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information and Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information

MSCI All Country World Index<sup>SM</sup> MSCI All Country World Index<sup>SM</sup> reflects the equity market performance of global developed and emerging markets.

MSCI World Index<sup>SM</sup> MSCI World Index<sup>SM</sup> reflects the equity market performance of global developed markets.

ADR American Depositary Receipt

LLC Limited Liability Company

PLC Public Limited Company

PP Private Placement

144A Securities sold under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, are subject to legal and/or contractual restrictions on resale and may not be publicly sold without registration under the 1933 Act. Unless otherwise noted, these securities have been determined to be liquid under guidelines established by the Board of Trustees. The total value of 144A securities as of the year ended December 31, 2021 is \$8,226,593, which represents 0.9% of net assets.

\* Non-income producing security.

°° Rate shown is the 7-day yield as of December 31, 2021.

¢ Security is valued using significant unobservable inputs. The total value of Level 3 securities as of the year ended December 31, 2021 is \$2,331,837, which represents 0.2% of net assets.

£ The Portfolio may invest in certain securities that are considered affiliated companies. As defined by the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, an affiliated company is one in which the Portfolio owns 5% or more of the outstanding voting securities, or a company which is under common ownership or control.

Δ Net of income paid to the securities lending agent and rebates paid to the borrowing counterparties.

§ Schedule of Restricted Securities (as of December 31, 2021)

	<i>Acquisition Date</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Value as a % of Net Assets</i>
API Holdings Private Ltd PP	9/27/21	\$ 2,347,416	\$ 2,331,837	0.2%

The Portfolio has registration rights for certain restricted securities held as of December 31, 2021. The issuer incurs all registration costs.

## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

### Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information

The following is a summary of the inputs that were used to value the Portfolio's investments in securities and other financial instruments as of December 31, 2021. See Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

#### Valuation Inputs Summary

	<i>Level 1 - Quoted Prices</i>	<i>Level 2 - Other Significant Observable Inputs</i>	<i>Level 3 - Significant Unobservable Inputs</i>
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Investments In Securities:</b>			
<i>Common Stocks</i>	\$ 908,748,023	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Preferred Stocks</i>	-	-	2,331,837
<i>Investment Companies</i>	-	963,925	-
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 908,748,023</b>	<b>\$ 963,925</b>	<b>\$ 2,331,837</b>



# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities

### December 31, 2021

Assets:	
Unaffiliated investments, at value (cost \$541,072,807)	\$ 911,079,860
Affiliated investments, at value (cost \$963,925)	963,925
Cash denominated in foreign currency (cost \$62,220)	62,220
Non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation	23,817
Receivables:	
Investments sold	910,601
Foreign tax reclaims	367,597
Dividends	249,468
Portfolio shares sold	105,700
Dividends from affiliates	54
Other assets	12,227
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>913,775,469</b>
Liabilities:	
Due to custodian	36
Payables:	
Advisory fees	534,722
Portfolio shares repurchased	159,519
Printing fees	57,590
12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees	57,449
Professional fees	43,743
Transfer agent fees and expenses	42,683
Non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation fees	23,817
Non-affiliated portfolio administration fees payable	23,450
Custodian fees	8,110
Affiliated portfolio administration fees payable	2,029
Foreign tax liability	1,822
Non-interested Trustees' fees and expenses	356
Accrued expenses and other payables	45,097
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,000,423</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 912,775,046</b>
Net Assets Consist of:	
Capital (par value and paid-in surplus)	\$ 458,177,606
Total distributable earnings (loss) (includes \$1,822 of foreign capital gains tax)	454,597,440
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 912,775,046</b>
<b>Net Assets - Institutional Shares</b>	<b>\$ 653,852,998</b>
Shares Outstanding, \$0.001 Par Value (unlimited shares authorized)	9,172,593
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share</b>	<b>\$ 71.28</b>
<b>Net Assets - Service Shares</b>	<b>\$ 258,922,048</b>
Shares Outstanding, \$0.001 Par Value (unlimited shares authorized)	3,735,724
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share</b>	<b>\$ 69.31</b>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio**  
**Statement of Operations**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2021**

Investment Income:		
Dividends	\$	12,333,827
Affiliated securities lending income, net		8,849
Dividends from affiliates		1,041
Unaffiliated securities lending income, net		355
Other income		57
Foreign tax withheld		(464,634)
<b>Total Investment Income</b>		<b>11,879,495</b>
Expenses:		
Advisory fees		6,078,903
12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees:		
Service Shares		620,685
Transfer agent administrative fees and expenses:		
Institutional Shares		317,542
Service Shares		124,137
Other transfer agent fees and expenses:		
Institutional Shares		22,191
Service Shares		3,993
Professional fees		61,669
Shareholder reports expense		46,044
Custodian fees		36,636
Affiliated portfolio administration fees		24,678
Registration fees		23,367
Non-interested Trustees' fees and expenses		14,039
Other expenses		83,282
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>7,457,166</b>
<b>Net Investment Income/(Loss)</b>		<b>4,422,329</b>
Net Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments:		
Investments and foreign currency transactions		82,488,846
<b>Total Net Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments</b>		<b>82,488,846</b>
Change in Unrealized Net Appreciation/Depreciation:		
Investments, foreign currency translations and non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation (net of decrease in deferred foreign taxes of \$66,824)		58,401,316
<b>Total Change in Unrealized Net Appreciation/Depreciation</b>		<b>58,401,316</b>
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>145,312,491</b>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

### Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	<i>Year ended</i> <i>December 31, 2021</i>	<i>Year ended</i> <i>December 31, 2020</i>
Operations:		
Net investment income/(loss)	\$ 4,422,329	\$ 4,653,529
Net realized gain/(loss) on investments	82,488,846	40,036,236
Change in unrealized net appreciation/depreciation	58,401,316	94,175,782
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations	145,312,491	138,865,547
Dividends and Distributions to Shareholders:		
Institutional Shares	(32,926,296)	(31,186,676)
Service Shares	(12,748,040)	(12,545,127)
Net Decrease from Dividends and Distributions to Shareholders	(45,674,336)	(43,731,803)
Capital Share Transactions:		
Institutional Shares	(19,091,566)	(7,319,597)
Service Shares	(4,426,458)	(5,498,429)
Net Increase/(Decrease) from Capital Share Transactions	(23,518,024)	(12,818,026)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets	76,120,131	82,315,718
Net Assets:		
Beginning of period	836,654,915	754,339,197
End of period	\$ 912,775,046	\$ 836,654,915

See Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Financial Highlights

### Institutional Shares

For a share outstanding during the year ended December 31	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$63.62	\$56.59	\$47.13	\$51.20	\$40.63
Income/(Loss) from Investment Operations:					
Net investment income/(loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	0.39	0.39	0.60	0.62	0.51
Net realized and unrealized gain/(loss)	10.90	10.04	12.67	(4.09)	10.45
Total from Investment Operations	11.29	10.43	13.27	(3.47)	10.96
Less Dividends and Distributions:					
Dividends (from net investment income)	(0.36)	(0.41)	(0.54)	(0.60)	(0.39)
Distributions (from capital gains)	(3.27)	(2.99)	(3.27)	—	—
Total Dividends and Distributions	(3.63)	(3.40)	(3.81)	(0.60)	(0.39)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$71.28	\$63.62	\$56.59	\$47.13	\$51.20
Total Return*	18.09%	20.06%	29.04%	(6.87)%	27.03%
Net Assets, End of Period (in thousands)	\$653,853	\$600,868	\$539,915	\$463,402	\$540,594
Average Net Assets for the Period (in thousands)	\$636,425	\$516,468	\$511,859	\$533,418	\$512,287
Ratios to Average Net Assets**:					
Ratio of Gross Expenses	0.77%	0.84%	0.79%	0.60%	0.64%
Ratio of Net Expenses (After Waivers and Expense Offsets)	0.77%	0.84%	0.79%	0.60%	0.64%
Ratio of Net Investment Income/(Loss)	0.57%	0.72%	1.13%	1.19%	1.05%
Portfolio Turnover Rate	20%	33%	36%	36%	41%

### Service Shares

For a share outstanding during the year ended December 31	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$62.00	\$55.27	\$46.15	\$50.17	\$39.87
Income/(Loss) from Investment Operations:					
Net investment income/(loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	0.21	0.25	0.45	0.48	0.38
Net realized and unrealized gain/(loss)	10.62	9.77	12.39	(4.00)	10.24
Total from Investment Operations	10.83	10.02	12.84	(3.52)	10.62
Less Dividends and Distributions:					
Dividends (from net investment income)	(0.25)	(0.30)	(0.45)	(0.50)	(0.32)
Distributions (from capital gains)	(3.27)	(2.99)	(3.27)	—	—
Total Dividends and Distributions	(3.52)	(3.29)	(3.72)	(0.50)	(0.32)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$69.31	\$62.00	\$55.27	\$46.15	\$50.17
Total Return*	17.80%	19.76%	28.71%	(7.08)%	26.68%
Net Assets, End of Period (in thousands)	\$258,922	\$235,787	\$214,425	\$180,168	\$210,318
Average Net Assets for the Period (in thousands)	\$248,792	\$206,127	\$198,883	\$206,497	\$197,483
Ratios to Average Net Assets**:					
Ratio of Gross Expenses	1.02%	1.09%	1.04%	0.85%	0.89%
Ratio of Net Expenses (After Waivers and Expense Offsets)	1.02%	1.09%	1.04%	0.85%	0.89%
Ratio of Net Investment Income/(Loss)	0.32%	0.47%	0.88%	0.94%	0.81%
Portfolio Turnover Rate	20%	33%	36%	36%	41%

\* Total return includes adjustments in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles required at the year or period end and are not annualized for periods of less than one full year. Total return does not include fees, charges, or expenses imposed by the variable annuity and life insurance contracts for which Janus Aspen Series serves as an underlying investment vehicle.

\*\* Annualized for periods of less than one full year.

(1) Per share amounts are calculated based on average shares outstanding during the year or period.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

### 1. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio (the "Portfolio") is a series of Janus Aspen Series (the "Trust"), which is organized as a Delaware statutory trust and is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company, and therefore has applied the specialized accounting and reporting guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 946. The Trust offers 10 portfolios, each of which offers multiple share classes, with differing investment objectives and policies. The Portfolio seeks long-term growth of capital. The Portfolio is classified as diversified, as defined in the 1940 Act. Janus Henderson Investors US LLC (formerly Janus Capital Management LLC) is the investment adviser (the "Adviser") to the Portfolio.

The Portfolio currently offers two classes of shares: Institutional Shares and Service Shares. Each class represents an interest in the same portfolio of investments. Institutional Shares are offered only in connection with investment in and payments under variable insurance contracts as well as certain qualified retirement plans. Service Shares are offered only in connection with investment in and payments under variable insurance contracts as well as certain qualified retirement plans that require a fee from Portfolio assets to procure distribution and administrative services to contract owners and plan participants.

Shareholders, including participating insurance companies, as well as accounts, may from time to time own (beneficially or of record) a significant percentage of the Portfolio's Shares and can be considered to "control" the Portfolio when that ownership exceeds 25% of the Portfolio's assets (and which may differ from control as determined in accordance with United States of America generally accepted accounting principles ("US GAAP")).

The following accounting policies have been followed by the Portfolio and are in conformity with US GAAP.

#### Investment Valuation

Securities held by the Portfolio are valued in accordance with policies and procedures established by and under the supervision of the Trustees (the "Valuation Procedures"). Equity securities traded on a domestic securities exchange are generally valued at the closing prices on the primary market or exchange on which they trade. If such price is lacking for the trading period immediately preceding the time of determination, such securities are valued at their current bid price. Equity securities that are traded on a foreign exchange are generally valued at the closing prices on such markets. In the event that there is no current trading volume on a particular security in such foreign exchange, the bid price from the primary exchange is generally used to value the security. Securities that are traded on the over-the-counter ("OTC") markets are generally valued at their closing or latest bid prices as available. Foreign securities and currencies are converted to U.S. dollars using the applicable exchange rate in effect at the close of the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"). The Portfolio will determine the market value of individual securities held by it by using prices provided by one or more approved professional pricing services or, as needed, by obtaining market quotations from independent broker-dealers. Most debt securities are valued in accordance with the evaluated bid price supplied by the pricing service that is intended to reflect market value. The evaluated bid price supplied by the pricing service is an evaluation that may consider factors such as security prices, yields, maturities and ratings. Certain short-term securities maturing within 60 days or less may be evaluated and valued on an amortized cost basis provided that the amortized cost determined approximates market value. Securities for which market quotations or evaluated prices are not readily available or deemed unreliable are valued at fair value determined in good faith under the Valuation Procedures. Circumstances in which fair value pricing may be utilized include, but are not limited to: (i) a significant event that may affect the securities of a single issuer, such as a merger, bankruptcy, or significant issuer-specific development; (ii) an event that may affect an entire market, such as a natural disaster or significant governmental action; (iii) a nonsignificant event such as a market closing early or not opening, or a security trading halt; and (iv) pricing of a nonvalued security and a restricted or nonpublic security. Special valuation considerations may apply with respect to "odd-lot" fixed-income transactions which, due to their small size, may receive evaluated prices by pricing services which reflect a large block trade and not what actually could be obtained for the odd-lot position. The Portfolio uses systematic fair valuation models provided by independent third parties to value international equity securities in order to adjust for stale pricing, which may occur between the close of certain foreign exchanges and the close of the NYSE.

#### Valuation Inputs Summary

FASB ASC 820, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures ("ASC 820"), defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosure requirements regarding fair value measurements. This standard emphasizes that fair value is a market-based measurement that should be determined based on the assumptions that

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability and establishes a hierarchy that prioritizes inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. These inputs are summarized into three broad levels:

Level 1 – Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets the Portfolio has the ability to access for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 – Observable inputs other than unadjusted quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly. These inputs may include quoted prices for the identical instrument on an inactive market, prices for similar instruments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, yield curves, default rates and similar data.

Assets or liabilities categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy generally include: debt securities fair valued in accordance with the evaluated bid or ask prices supplied by a pricing service; securities traded on OTC markets and listed securities for which no sales are reported that are fair valued at the latest bid price (or yield equivalent thereof) obtained from one or more dealers transacting in a market for such securities or by a pricing service approved by the Portfolio's Trustees; certain short-term debt securities with maturities of 60 days or less that are fair valued at amortized cost; and equity securities of foreign issuers whose fair value is determined by using systematic fair valuation models provided by independent third parties in order to adjust for stale pricing which may occur between the close of certain foreign exchanges and the close of the NYSE. Other securities that may be categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy include, but are not limited to, preferred stocks, bank loans, swaps, investments in unregistered investment companies, options, and forward contracts.

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability to the extent that relevant observable inputs are not available, representing the Portfolio's own assumptions about the assumptions that a market participant would use in valuing the asset or liability, and that would be based on the best information available.

There have been no significant changes in valuation techniques used in valuing any such positions held by the Portfolio since the beginning of the fiscal year.

The inputs or methodology used for fair valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities. The summary of inputs used as of December 31, 2021 to fair value the Portfolio's investments in securities and other financial instruments is included in the "Valuation Inputs Summary" in the Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information.

### Investment Transactions and Investment Income

Investment transactions are accounted for as of the date purchased or sold (trade date). Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Certain dividends from foreign securities will be recorded as soon as the Portfolio is informed of the dividend, if such information is obtained subsequent to the ex-dividend date. Dividends from foreign securities may be subject to withholding taxes in foreign jurisdictions. Non-cash dividends, if any, are recorded on the ex-dividend date at fair value. Interest income is recorded daily on the accrual basis and includes amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts. The Portfolio classifies gains and losses on prepayments received as an adjustment to interest income. Debt securities may be placed in non-accrual status and related interest income may be reduced by stopping current accruals and writing off interest receivables when collection of all or a portion of interest has become doubtful. Gains and losses are determined on the identified cost basis, which is the same basis used for federal income tax purposes. Income, as well as gains and losses, both realized and unrealized, are allocated daily to each class of shares based upon the ratio of net assets represented by each class as a percentage of total net assets.

### Expenses

The Portfolio bears expenses incurred specifically on its behalf. Each class of shares bears a portion of general expenses, which are allocated daily to each class of shares based upon the ratio of net assets represented by each class as a percentage of total net assets. Expenses directly attributable to a specific class of shares are charged against the operations of such class.

### Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with US GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of income and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

### Indemnifications

In the normal course of business, the Portfolio may enter into contracts that contain provisions for indemnification of other parties against certain potential liabilities. The Portfolio's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, and would involve future claims that may be made against the Portfolio that have not yet occurred. Currently, the risk of material loss from such claims is considered remote.

### Foreign Currency Translations

The Portfolio does not isolate that portion of the results of operations resulting from the effect of changes in foreign exchange rates on investments from the fluctuations arising from changes in market prices of securities held at the date of the financial statements. Net unrealized appreciation or depreciation of investments and foreign currency translations arise from changes in the value of assets and liabilities, including investments in securities held at the date of the financial statements, resulting from changes in the exchange rates and changes in market prices of securities held.

Currency gains and losses are also calculated on payables and receivables that are denominated in foreign currencies. The payables and receivables are generally related to foreign security transactions and income translations.

Foreign currency-denominated assets and forward currency contracts may involve more risks than domestic transactions, including currency risk, counterparty risk, political and economic risk, regulatory risk and equity risk. Risks may arise from unanticipated movements in the value of foreign currencies relative to the U.S. dollar.

### Dividends and Distributions

The Portfolio may make semiannual distributions of substantially all of its investment income and an annual distribution of its net realized capital gains (if any).

The Portfolio may make certain investments in real estate investment trusts ("REITs") which pay dividends to their shareholders based upon funds available from operations. It is quite common for these dividends to exceed the REITs' taxable earnings and profits, resulting in the excess portion of such dividends being designated as a return of capital. If the Portfolio distributes such amounts, such distributions could constitute a return of capital to shareholders for federal income tax purposes.

### Federal Income Taxes

The Portfolio intends to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company and distribute all of its taxable income in accordance with the requirements of Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code. Management has analyzed the Portfolio's tax positions taken for all open federal income tax years, generally a three-year period, and has concluded that no provision for federal income tax is required in the Portfolio's financial statements. The Portfolio is not aware of any tax positions for which it is reasonably possible that the total amounts of unrecognized tax benefits will significantly change in the next twelve months.

## 2. Other Investments and Strategies

### Additional Investment Risk

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. government and the Federal Reserve, as well as certain foreign governments and central banks, have taken extraordinary actions to support local and global economies and the financial markets, including reducing interest rates to record-low levels. Extremely low or negative interest rates may become more prevalent or may not work as intended. As there is little precedent for this situation, the impact on various markets that interest rate or other significant policy changes may have is unknown. The withdrawal of this support, a failure of measures put in place in response to such economic uncertainty, or investor perception that such efforts were not sufficient could each negatively affect financial markets generally, and the value and liquidity of specific securities. In addition, policy and legislative changes in the United States and in other countries continue to impact many aspects of financial regulation.

Widespread disease, including pandemics and epidemics, and natural or environmental disasters, including those which may be attributable to global climate change, such as earthquakes, fires, floods, hurricanes, tsunamis and weather-related phenomena generally, have been and can be highly disruptive to economies and markets, adversely impacting individual companies, sectors, industries, markets, currencies, interest and inflation rates, credit ratings, investor sentiment, and other factors affecting the value of a Portfolio's investments. Economies and financial markets throughout the world have become increasingly interconnected, which increases the likelihood that events or conditions in one region or country will adversely affect markets or issuers in other regions or countries, including the United

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

States. These disruptions could prevent a Portfolio from executing advantageous investment decisions in a timely manner and negatively impact a Portfolio's ability to achieve its investment objective(s). Any such event(s) could have a significant adverse impact on the value of a Portfolio. In addition, these disruptions could also impair the information technology and other operational systems upon which the Portfolio's service providers, including the Adviser or the subadviser (as applicable), rely, and could otherwise disrupt the ability of employees of the Portfolio's service providers to perform essential tasks on behalf of the Portfolio. Adverse weather conditions may also have a particularly significant negative effect on issuers in the agricultural sector and on insurance and reinsurance companies that insure or reinsure against the impact of natural disasters.

A number of countries in the European Union (the "EU") have experienced, and may continue to experience, severe economic and financial difficulties. In particular, many EU nations are susceptible to economic risks associated with high levels of debt. Many non-governmental issuers, and even certain governments, have defaulted on, or been forced to restructure, their debts. Many other issuers have faced difficulties obtaining credit or refinancing existing obligations. Financial institutions have in many cases required government or central bank support, have needed to raise capital, and/or have been impaired in their ability to extend credit. As a result, financial markets in the EU have experienced extreme volatility and declines in asset values and liquidity. These difficulties may continue, worsen, or spread further within the EU. Responses to these financial problems by European governments, central banks, and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest, and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. Among other things, these developments have adversely affected the value and exchange rate of the euro and pound sterling, and may continue to significantly affect the economies of all EU countries, which in turn may have a material adverse effect on the Portfolio's investments in such countries, other countries that depend on EU countries for significant amounts of trade or investment, or issuers with exposure to debt issued by certain EU countries.

### Counterparties

Portfolio transactions involving a counterparty are subject to the risk that the counterparty or a third party will not fulfill its obligation to the Portfolio ("counterparty risk"). Counterparty risk may arise because of the counterparty's financial condition (i.e., financial difficulties, bankruptcy, or insolvency), market activities and developments, or other reasons, whether foreseen or not. A counterparty's inability to fulfill its obligation may result in significant financial loss to the Portfolio. The Portfolio may be unable to recover its investment from the counterparty or may obtain a limited recovery, and/or recovery may be delayed. The extent of the Portfolio's exposure to counterparty risk with respect to financial assets and liabilities approximates its carrying value.

The Portfolio may be exposed to counterparty risk through participation in various programs, including, but not limited to, lending its securities to third parties, cash sweep arrangements whereby the Portfolio's cash balance is invested in one or more types of cash management vehicles, as well as investments in, but not limited to, repurchase agreements, debt securities, and derivatives, including various types of swaps, futures and options. The Portfolio intends to enter into financial transactions with counterparties that the Adviser believes to be creditworthy at the time of the transaction. There is always the risk that the Adviser's analysis of a counterparty's creditworthiness is incorrect or may change due to market conditions. To the extent that the Portfolio focuses its transactions with a limited number of counterparties, it will have greater exposure to the risks associated with one or more counterparties.

### Emerging Market Investing

Within the parameters of its specific investment policies, the Portfolio may invest in securities of issuers or companies from or with exposure to one or more "developing countries" or "emerging market countries." Such countries include but are not limited to countries included in the MSCI Emerging Markets Index<sup>SM</sup>. Emerging market countries in which the Portfolio may invest include frontier market countries, the economies of which are less developed than other emerging market countries. To the extent that the Portfolio invests a significant amount of its assets in one or more of these countries, its returns and net asset value may be affected to a large degree by events and economic conditions in such countries. The risks of foreign investing are heightened when investing in emerging markets, which may result in the price of investments in emerging markets experiencing sudden and sharp price swings. In many developing markets, there is less government supervision and regulation of stock exchanges, brokers, and listed companies, making these investments potentially more volatile in price and less liquid than investments in developed securities markets, resulting in greater risk to investors. Similarly, issuers in such markets may not be subject to regulatory, accounting, auditing, and financial reporting and recordkeeping standards comparable to those to which U.S. companies are subject. There is a risk in developing countries that a current or future economic or political crisis could lead to price controls, forced



## **Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio**

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

mergers of companies, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, imposition or enforcement of foreign ownership limits, seizure, nationalization, sanctions or imposition of restrictions by various governmental entities on investment and trading, or creation of government monopolies, any of which may have a detrimental effect on the Portfolio's investments. In addition, the Portfolio's investments may be denominated in foreign currencies and therefore, changes in the value of a country's currency compared to the U.S. dollar may affect the value of the Portfolio's investments. To the extent that the Portfolio invests a significant portion of its assets in the securities of issuers in or companies of a single country or region, it is more likely to be impacted by events or conditions affecting that country or region, which could have a negative impact on the Portfolio's performance. Developing countries may also experience a higher level of exposure and vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change. This can be attributed to both the geographic location of emerging market countries and/or a country's lack of access to technology or resources to adjust and adapt to its effects. An increased occurrence and severity of natural disasters and extreme weather events such as droughts and decreased crop yields, heat waves, flooding and rising sea levels, and increased spread of disease, could cause harmful effects to the performance of affected economies. Additionally, foreign and emerging market risks, including, but not limited to, price controls, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, imposition or enforcement of foreign ownership limits, nationalization, and restrictions on repatriation of assets may be heightened to the extent the Portfolio invests in Chinese local market securities.

#### **Restricted Security Transactions**

Restricted securities held by the Portfolio may not be sold except in exempt transactions or in a public offering registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The risk of investing in such securities is generally greater than the risk of investing in the securities of widely held, publicly traded companies. Lack of a secondary market and resale restrictions may result in the inability of the Portfolio to sell a security at a fair price and may substantially delay the sale of the security. In addition, these securities may exhibit greater price volatility than securities for which secondary markets exist.

#### **Securities Lending**

Under procedures adopted by the Trustees, the Portfolio may seek to earn additional income by lending securities to certain qualified broker-dealers and institutions. JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association acts as securities lending agent and a limited purpose custodian or subcustodian to receive and disburse cash balances and cash collateral, hold short-term investments, hold collateral, and perform other custodial functions in accordance with the Non-Custodial Securities Lending Agreement. The Portfolio may lend portfolio securities in an amount equal to up to 1/3 of its total assets as determined at the time of the loan origination. There is the risk of delay in recovering a loaned security or the risk of loss in collateral rights if the borrower fails financially. In addition, the Adviser makes efforts to balance the benefits and risks from granting such loans. All loans will be continuously secured by collateral which may consist of cash, U.S. Government securities, domestic and foreign short-term debt instruments, letters of credit, time deposits, repurchase agreements, money market mutual funds or other money market accounts, or such other collateral as permitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). If the Portfolio is unable to recover a security on loan, the Portfolio may use the collateral to purchase replacement securities in the market. There is a risk that the value of the collateral could decrease below the cost of the replacement security by the time the replacement investment is made, resulting in a loss to the Portfolio. In certain circumstances individual loan transactions could yield negative returns.

Upon receipt of cash collateral, the Adviser may invest it in affiliated or non-affiliated cash management vehicles, whether registered or unregistered entities, as permitted by the 1940 Act and rules promulgated thereunder. The Adviser currently intends to primarily invest the cash collateral in a cash management vehicle for which the Adviser serves as investment adviser, Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, or in time deposits. An investment in Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC is generally subject to the same risks that shareholders experience when investing in similarly structured vehicles, such as the potential for significant fluctuations in assets as a result of the purchase and redemption activity of the securities lending program, a decline in the value of the collateral, and possible liquidity issues. Such risks may delay the return of the cash collateral and cause the Portfolio to violate its agreement to return the cash collateral to a borrower in a timely manner. As adviser to the Portfolio and Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, the Adviser has an inherent conflict of interest as a result of its fiduciary duties to both the Portfolio and Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC. Additionally, the Adviser receives an investment advisory fee of 0.05% for managing Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, but it may not receive a fee for managing certain other affiliated cash management vehicles in which the Portfolio may invest, and therefore may have an incentive to allocate preferred investment opportunities to investment vehicles for which it is receiving a fee.

## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

### Notes to Financial Statements

The value of the collateral must be at least 102% of the market value of the loaned securities that are denominated in U.S. dollars and 105% of the market value of the loaned securities that are not denominated in U.S. dollars. Loaned securities and related collateral are marked-to-market each business day based upon the market value of the loaned securities at the close of business, employing the most recent available pricing information. Collateral levels are then adjusted based on this mark-to-market evaluation. Additional required collateral, or excess collateral returned, is delivered on the next business day. Therefore, the value of the collateral held may be temporarily less than 102% or 105% value of the securities on loan. The cash collateral invested by the Adviser is disclosed in the Schedule of Investments (if applicable).

Income earned from the investment of the cash collateral, net of rebates paid to, or fees paid by, borrowers and less the fees paid to the lending agent are included as "Affiliated securities lending income, net" on the Statement of Operations.

There were no securities on loan as of December 31, 2021.

### 3. Investment Advisory Agreements and Other Transactions with Affiliates

The Portfolio pays the Adviser an investment advisory fee rate that may adjust up or down based on the Portfolio's performance relative to its benchmark index.

The investment advisory fee rate paid to the Adviser by the Portfolio consists of two components: (1) a base fee calculated by applying the contractual fixed rate of the advisory fee to the Portfolio's average daily net assets during the previous month (the "Base Fee Rate"), plus or minus (2) a performance-fee adjustment (the "Performance Adjustment") calculated by applying a variable rate of up to 0.15% (positive or negative) to the Portfolio's average daily net assets based on the Portfolio's relative performance compared to the cumulative investment record of its benchmark index over a 36-month performance measurement period or shorter time period, as applicable. The investment advisory fee rate is calculated daily and paid monthly.

The investment performance of the Portfolio's Service Shares for the performance measurement period is used to calculate the Performance Adjustment. The Portfolio's Base Fee Rate prior to any performance adjustment (expressed as an annual rate) is 0.60%, and the Portfolio's benchmark index used in the calculation is the MSCI World Index<sup>SM</sup>.

No Performance Adjustment is applied unless the difference between the Portfolio's investment performance and the cumulative investment record of the Portfolio's benchmark index is 0.50% or greater (positive or negative) during the applicable performance measurement period. The Base Fee Rate is subject to an upward or downward Performance Adjustment for every full 0.50% increment by which the Portfolio outperforms or underperforms its benchmark index, up to the Portfolio's full performance rate of  $\pm 6.00\%$ . Because the Performance Adjustment is tied to a Portfolio's relative performance compared to its benchmark index (and not its absolute performance), the Performance Adjustment could increase the Adviser's fee even if the Portfolio's Shares lose value during the performance measurement period and could decrease the Adviser's fee even if the Portfolio's Shares increase in value during the performance measurement period. For purposes of computing the Base Fee Rate and the Performance Adjustment, net assets are averaged over different periods (average daily net assets during the previous month for the Base Fee Rate, versus average daily net assets during the performance measurement period for the Performance Adjustment). Performance of the Portfolio is calculated net of expenses whereas the Portfolio's benchmark index does not have any fees or expenses. Reinvestment of dividends and distributions is included in calculating both the performance of a Portfolio and the Portfolio's benchmark index.

The Portfolio's prospectuses and statement(s) of additional information contain additional information about performance-based fees. The amount shown as advisory fees on the Statement of Operations reflects the Base Fee Rate plus/minus any Performance Adjustment. For the year ended December 31, 2021, the performance adjusted investment advisory fee rate before any waivers and/or reimbursements of expenses is 0.69%.

Janus Henderson Services US LLC (formerly Janus Services LLC) (the "Transfer Agent"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Adviser, is the Portfolio's transfer agent. The Transfer Agent receives an administrative services fee at an annual rate of 0.05% of the average daily net assets of the Portfolio for arranging for the provision by participating insurance companies and qualified plan service providers of administrative services, including recordkeeping, subaccounting, order processing, or other shareholder services provided on behalf of contract holders or plan participants investing in the Portfolio. Other shareholder services may include the provision of order confirmations, periodic account statements, forwarding prospectuses, shareholder reports, and other materials to existing investors, and answering inquiries regarding accounts. The Transfer Agent expects to use this entire fee to compensate insurance companies and

## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

### Notes to Financial Statements

qualified plan service providers for providing these services to their customers who invest in the Portfolio. Any unused portion will be reimbursed to the applicable share class at least annually.

In addition, the Transfer Agent provides or arranges for the provision of certain other internal administrative, recordkeeping, and shareholder relations services for the Portfolio. The Transfer Agent is not compensated for these internal services related to the shares, except for out-of-pocket costs. These amounts are disclosed as "Other transfer agent fees and expenses" on the Statement of Operations.

Under a distribution and shareholder servicing plan (the "Plan") adopted in accordance with Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, the Service Shares may pay the Trust's distributor, Janus Henderson Distributors US LLC (formerly Janus Distributors LLC) (the "Distributor"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Adviser, a fee for the sale and distribution and/or shareholder servicing of the Service Shares at an annual rate of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Service Shares. Under the terms of the Plan, the Trust is authorized to make payments to the Distributor for remittance to insurance companies and qualified plan service providers as compensation for distribution and/or shareholder services performed by such entities. These amounts are disclosed as "12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees" on the Statement of Operations. Payments under the Plan are not tied exclusively to actual 12b-1 distribution and servicing fees, and the payments may exceed 12b-1 distribution and servicing fees actually incurred. If any of the Portfolio's actual 12b-1 distribution and servicing fees incurred during a calendar year are less than the payments made during a calendar year, the Portfolio will be refunded the difference. Refunds, if any, are included in "12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees" in the Statement of Operations.

The Adviser serves as administrator to the Portfolio pursuant to an administration agreement between the Adviser and the Trust. Under the administration agreement, the Adviser is obligated to provide or arrange for the provision of certain administration, compliance, and accounting services to the Portfolio, including providing office space for the Portfolio, and is reimbursed by the Portfolio for certain of its costs in providing these services (to the extent the Adviser seeks reimbursement and such costs are not otherwise waived). In addition, employees of the Adviser and/or its affiliates may serve as officers of the Trust. The Portfolio pays for some or all of the salaries, fees, and expenses of the Adviser employees and Portfolio officers, with respect to certain specified administration functions they perform on behalf of the Portfolio. The Portfolio pays these costs based on out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Adviser, and these costs are separate and apart from advisory fees and other expenses paid in connection with the investment advisory services the Adviser (or any subadvisor, as applicable) provides to the Portfolio. These amounts are disclosed as "Affiliated portfolio administration fees" on the Statement of Operations. In addition, some expenses related to compensation payable to the Portfolio's Chief Compliance Officer and certain compliance staff, all of whom are employees of the Adviser and/or its affiliates, are shared with the Portfolio. Total compensation of \$32,683 was paid to the Chief Compliance Officer and certain compliance staff by the Trust during the year ended December 31, 2021. The Portfolio's portion is reported as part of "Other expenses" on the Statement of Operations.

The Board of Trustees has adopted a deferred compensation plan (the "Deferred Plan") for independent Trustees to elect to defer receipt of all or a portion of the annual compensation they are entitled to receive from the Portfolio. All deferred fees are credited to an account established in the name of the Trustees. The amounts credited to the account then increase or decrease, as the case may be, in accordance with the performance of one or more of the Janus Henderson funds that are selected by the Trustees. The account balance continues to fluctuate in accordance with the performance of the selected fund or funds until final payment of all amounts are credited to the account. The fluctuation of the account balance is recorded by the Portfolio as unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) and is included as of December 31, 2021 on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities in the asset, "Non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation," and liability, "Non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation fees." Additionally, the recorded unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) is included in "Total distributable earnings (loss)" on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Deferred compensation expenses for the year ended December 31, 2021 are included in "Non-interested Trustees' fees and expenses" on the Statement of Operations. Trustees are allowed to change their designation of mutual funds from time to time. Amounts will be deferred until distributed in accordance with the Deferred Plan. Deferred fees of \$512,700 were paid by the Trust to the Trustees under the Deferred Plan during the year ended December 31, 2021.

Pursuant to the provisions of the 1940 Act and related rules, the Portfolio may participate in an affiliated or non-affiliated cash sweep program. In the cash sweep program, uninvested cash balances of the Portfolio may be used to purchase shares of affiliated or non-affiliated money market funds or cash management pooled investment vehicles that operate as money market funds. The Portfolio is eligible to participate in the cash sweep program (the "Investing

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

Funds"). As adviser, the Adviser has an inherent conflict of interest because of its fiduciary duties to the affiliated money market funds or cash management pooled investment vehicles and the Investing Funds. Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC (the "Sweep Vehicle") is an affiliated unregistered cash management pooled investment vehicle that invests primarily in highly-rated short-term fixed-income securities. The Sweep Vehicle operates pursuant to the provisions of the 1940 Act that govern the operation of money market funds and prices its shares at NAV reflecting market-based values of its portfolio securities (i.e., a "floating" NAV) rounded to the fourth decimal place (e.g., \$1.0000). The Sweep Vehicle is permitted to impose a liquidity fee (of up to 2%) on redemptions from the Sweep Vehicle or a redemption gate that temporarily suspends redemptions from the Sweep Vehicle for up to 10 business days during a 90 day period. There are no restrictions on the Portfolio's ability to withdraw investments from the Sweep Vehicle at will, and there are no unfunded capital commitments due from the Portfolio to the Sweep Vehicle. The Sweep Vehicle does not charge any management fee, sales charge or service fee.

Any purchases and sales, realized gains/losses and recorded dividends from affiliated investments during the year ended December 31, 2021 can be found in the "Schedules of Affiliated Investments" located in the Schedule of Investments.

The Portfolio is permitted to purchase or sell securities ("cross-trade") between itself and other funds or accounts managed by the Adviser in accordance with Rule 17a-7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Rule 17a-7"), when the transaction is consistent with the investment objectives and policies of the Portfolio and in accordance with the Internal Cross Trade Procedures adopted by the Trust's Board of Trustees. These procedures have been designed to ensure that any cross-trade of securities by the Portfolio from or to another fund or account that is or could be considered an affiliate of the Portfolio under certain limited circumstances by virtue of having a common investment adviser, common Officer, or common Trustee complies with Rule 17a-7. Under these procedures, each cross-trade is effected at the current market price to save costs where allowed. During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Portfolio engaged in cross trades amounting to \$1,161,597 in purchases.

#### 4. Federal Income Tax

The tax components of capital shown in the table below represent: (1) distribution requirements the Portfolio must satisfy under the income tax regulations; (2) losses or deductions the Portfolio may be able to offset against income and gains realized in future years; and (3) unrealized appreciation or depreciation of investments for federal income tax purposes (reduced by foreign tax liability).

Other book to tax differences primarily consist of deferred compensation. The Portfolio has elected to treat gains and losses on forward foreign currency contracts as capital gains and losses, if applicable. Other foreign currency gains and losses on debt instruments are treated as ordinary income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 988 of the Internal Revenue Code.

<i>Undistributed Ordinary Income</i>	<i>Undistributed Long-Term Gains</i>	<i>Accumulated Capital Losses</i>	<i>Loss Deferrals</i>		<i>Other Book to Tax Differences</i>	<i>Net Tax Appreciation/ (Depreciation)</i>
			<i>Late-Year Ordinary Loss</i>	<i>Post-October Capital Loss</i>		
\$ 6,562,630	\$ 78,643,188	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (19,133)	\$369,410,755

The aggregate cost of investments and the composition of unrealized appreciation and depreciation of investment securities for federal income tax purposes as of December 31, 2021 are noted below. The primary differences between book and tax appreciation or depreciation of investments are wash sale loss deferrals and investments in partnerships.

<i>Federal Tax Cost</i>	<i>Unrealized Appreciation</i>	<i>Unrealized (Depreciation)</i>	<i>Net Tax Appreciation/ (Depreciation)</i>
\$ 542,631,208	\$ 384,839,366	\$ (15,426,789)	\$ 369,412,577

Income and capital gains distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations that may differ from US GAAP. These differences are due to differing treatments for items such as net short-term gains, deferral of wash

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

sale losses, foreign currency transactions, and capital loss carryovers. Certain permanent differences such as tax returns of capital and net investment losses noted below have been reclassified to capital.

For the year ended December 31, 2021

<i>Distributions</i>			
<i>From Ordinary Income</i>	<i>From Long-Term Capital Gains</i>	<i>Tax Return of Capital</i>	<i>Net Investment Loss</i>
\$ 4,199,243	\$ 41,475,093	\$ -	\$ -

For the year ended December 31, 2020

<i>Distributions</i>			
<i>From Ordinary Income</i>	<i>From Long-Term Capital Gains</i>	<i>Tax Return of Capital</i>	<i>Net Investment Loss</i>
\$ 5,557,134	\$ 38,174,669	\$ -	\$ -

Permanent book to tax basis differences may result in reclassifications between the components of net assets. These differences have no impact on the results of operations or net assets. The following reclassifications have been made to the Portfolio:

<i>Increase/(Decrease) to Capital</i>	<i>Increase/(Decrease) to Undistributed Net Investment Income/Loss</i>	<i>Increase/(Decrease) to Undistributed Net Realized Gain/Loss</i>
\$ -	\$ 1,245,599	\$ (1,245,599)

### 5. Capital Share Transactions

	<i>Year ended December 31, 2021</i>		<i>Year ended December 31, 2020</i>	
	<i>Shares</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Shares</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>Institutional Shares:</b>				
Shares sold	312,608	\$ 21,172,671	332,367	\$ 18,355,000
Reinvested dividends and distributions	488,320	32,926,296	621,750	31,186,676
Shares repurchased	(1,072,453)	(73,190,533)	(1,050,167)	(56,861,273)
Net Increase/(Decrease)	(271,525)	\$(19,091,566)	(96,050)	\$(7,319,597)
<b>Service Shares:</b>				
Shares sold	233,267	\$ 15,614,302	240,326	\$ 12,343,506
Reinvested dividends and distributions	194,479	12,748,040	257,316	12,545,127
Shares repurchased	(495,053)	(32,788,800)	(574,118)	(30,387,062)
Net Increase/(Decrease)	(67,307)	\$ (4,426,458)	(76,476)	\$(5,498,429)

### 6. Purchases and Sales of Investment Securities

For the year ended December 31, 2021, the aggregate cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of investment securities (excluding any short-term securities, short-term options contracts, TBAs, and in-kind transactions, as applicable) was as follows:

<i>Purchases of Securities</i>	<i>Proceeds from Sales of Securities</i>	<i>Purchases of Long-Term U.S. Government Obligations</i>	<i>Proceeds from Sales of Long-Term U.S. Government Obligations</i>
\$175,957,877	\$ 238,768,111	-	-

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

### 7. Subsequent Event

Management has evaluated whether any events or transactions occurred subsequent to December 31, 2021 and through the date of issuance of the Portfolio's financial statements and determined that there were no material events or transactions that would require recognition or disclosure in the Portfolio's financial statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Trustees of Janus Aspen Series and Shareholders of Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

### Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities, including the schedule of investments, of Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio (one of the portfolios constituting Janus Aspen Series, referred to hereafter as the "Portfolio") as of December 31, 2021, the related statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2021, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2021, including the related notes, and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period ended December 31, 2021 (collectively referred to as the "financial statements"). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Portfolio as of December 31, 2021, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2021 and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period ended December 31, 2021 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Portfolio's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Portfolio's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Portfolio in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits of these financial statements in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of December 31, 2021 by correspondence with the custodian, transfer agent, investee company and brokers; when replies were not received from brokers, we performed other auditing procedures. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.



Denver, Colorado  
February 15, 2022

We have served as the auditor of one or more investment companies in Janus Henderson Funds since 1990.

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Additional Information (unaudited)

### Proxy Voting Policies and Voting Record

A description of the policies and procedures that the Portfolio uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to its portfolio securities is available without charge: (i) upon request, by calling 1-800-525-1093; (ii) on the Portfolio's website at [janushenderson.com/proxyvoting](http://janushenderson.com/proxyvoting); and (iii) on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. Additionally, information regarding the Portfolio's proxy voting record for the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30 is also available, free of charge, through [janushenderson.com/proxyvoting](http://janushenderson.com/proxyvoting) and from the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

### Full Holdings

The Portfolio files its complete portfolio holdings (schedule of investments) with the SEC as an exhibit to Form N-PORT within 60 days of the end of the first and third fiscal quarters, and in the annual report and semiannual report to shareholders. The Portfolio's Form N-PORT filings and annual and semiannual reports: (i) are available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>; (ii) may be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. (information on the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330); and (iii) are available without charge, upon request, by calling a Janus Henderson representative at 1-877-335-2687 (toll free). Portfolio holdings consisting of at least the names of the holdings are generally available on a monthly basis with a 30-day lag under Full Holdings for the Portfolio at [janushenderson.com/vit](http://janushenderson.com/vit).

### APPROVAL OF ADVISORY AGREEMENTS DURING THE PERIOD

The Trustees of Janus Aspen Series, each of whom serves as an "independent" Trustee (the "Trustees"), oversee the management of each portfolio of Janus Aspen Series (each, a "VIT Portfolio," and collectively, the "VIT Portfolios"), as well as each fund of Janus Investment Fund (each, a "Fund," and collectively, the "Funds" and together with the VIT Portfolios, the "Janus Henderson Funds," and each, a "Janus Henderson Fund"). As required by law, the Trustees determine annually whether to continue the investment advisory agreement for each Janus Henderson Fund and the subadvisory agreement for each Janus Henderson Fund that utilizes a subadviser.

In connection with their most recent consideration of those agreements for each Janus Henderson Fund, the Trustees received and reviewed information provided by Janus Henderson Investors US LLC (formerly, Janus Capital Management LLC) (the "Adviser") and the subadviser in response to requests of the Trustees and their independent legal counsel. They also received and reviewed information and analysis provided by, and in response to requests of, their independent fee consultant. Throughout their consideration of the agreements, the Trustees were advised by their independent legal counsel. The Trustees met with management to consider the agreements, and also met separately in executive session with their independent legal counsel and their independent fee consultant.

At meetings held on November 3-4, 2021 and December 7-8, 2021, the Trustees' evaluated the information provided by the Adviser, the subadviser, and the independent fee consultant, as well as other information addressed during the year. Following such evaluation, the Trustees determined that the overall arrangements between each Janus Henderson Fund and the Adviser and each subadviser, as applicable, were fair and reasonable in light of the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Adviser, its affiliates and the subadviser, the fees charged for those services, and other matters that the Trustees considered relevant in the exercise of their business judgment and unanimously approved the continuation of the investment advisory agreement for each Janus Henderson Fund and the subadvisory agreement for each subadvised Janus Henderson Fund, for the period from February 1, 2022 through February 1, 2023, subject to earlier termination as provided for in each agreement.

In considering the continuation of those agreements, the Trustees reviewed and analyzed various factors that they determined were relevant, including the factors described below, none of which by itself was considered dispositive. However, the material factors and conclusions that formed the basis for the Trustees' determination to approve the continuation of the agreements are discussed separately below. Also included is a summary of the independent fee consultant's conclusions and opinions that arose during, and were included as part of, the Trustees' consideration of the agreements. "Management fees," as used herein, reflect actual annual advisory fees and, for the purpose of peer comparisons any administration fees (excluding out of pocket costs), net of any waivers, paid by a fund as a percentage of average net assets.

### Nature, Extent and Quality of Services

The Trustees reviewed the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Adviser and the subadviser to the Janus Henderson Funds, taking into account the investment objective, strategies and policies of each Janus Henderson Fund, and the knowledge the Trustees gained from their regular meetings with management on at least a quarterly



## **Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio**

### **Additional Information (unaudited)**

basis and their ongoing review of information related to the Janus Henderson Funds. In addition, the Trustees reviewed the resources and key personnel of the Adviser and the subadviser, particularly noting those employees who provide investment and risk management services to the Janus Henderson Funds. The Trustees also considered other services provided to the Janus Henderson Funds by the Adviser or the subadviser, such as managing the execution of portfolio transactions and the selection of broker-dealers for those transactions. The Trustees considered the Adviser's role as administrator to the Janus Henderson Funds, noting that the Adviser generally does not receive a fee for its services as administrator, but is reimbursed for its out-of-pocket costs. The Trustees considered the role of the Adviser in monitoring adherence to the Janus Henderson Funds' investment restrictions, providing support services for the Trustees and Trustee committees, and overseeing communications with shareholders and the activities of other service providers, including monitoring compliance with various policies and procedures of the Janus Henderson Funds and with applicable securities laws and regulations.

In this regard, the independent fee consultant noted that the Adviser provides a number of different services for the Janus Henderson Funds and fund shareholders, ranging from investment management services to various other servicing functions, and that, in its view, the Adviser is a capable provider of those services. The independent fee consultant also provided its belief that the Adviser has developed a number of institutional competitive advantages that should enable it to provide superior investment and service performance over the long term.

The Trustees concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Adviser and the subadviser to each Janus Henderson Fund were appropriate and consistent with the terms of the respective advisory and subadvisory agreements, and that, taking into account steps taken to address those Janus Henderson Funds whose performance lagged that of their peers for certain periods, the Janus Henderson Funds were likely to benefit from the continued provision of those services. They also concluded that the Adviser and the subadviser had sufficient personnel, with the appropriate education and experience, to serve the Janus Henderson Funds effectively and each had demonstrated its ability to attract well-qualified personnel.

#### ***Performance of the Funds***

The Trustees considered the performance results of each Janus Henderson Fund over various time periods. They noted that they considered Janus Henderson Fund performance data throughout the year, including periodic meetings with each Janus Henderson Fund's portfolio manager(s), and also reviewed information comparing each Janus Henderson Fund's performance with the performance of comparable funds and peer groups identified by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge"), an independent data provider, and with the Janus Henderson Fund's benchmark index. In this regard, the independent fee consultant found that the overall Janus Henderson Funds' performance has been reasonable: for the 36 months ended September 30, 2021, approximately 55% of the Janus Henderson Funds were in the top two quartiles of performance versus Broadridge peers, and for the 12 months ended September 30, 2021, approximately 45% of the Janus Henderson Funds were in the top two quartiles of performance versus Broadridge peers.

The Trustees considered the performance of each Janus Henderson Fund, noting that performance may vary by share class, and noted the following with respect to the VIT Portfolios:

- For Janus Henderson Balanced Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the first Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2021 and the second Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2021.
- For Janus Henderson Enterprise Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2021 and the third Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2021. The Trustees noted the reasons for the Fund's underperformance and the steps the Adviser had taken or was taking to improve performance.
- For Janus Henderson Flexible Bond Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the second Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2021 and the third Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2021.
- For Janus Henderson Forty Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the first Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2021 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2021.

## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

### Additional Information (unaudited)

- For Janus Henderson Global Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the third Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2021 and the third Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2021. The Trustees noted the reasons for the Fund's underperformance, while also noting that the Fund has a performance fee structure that results in lower management fees during periods of underperformance, and the steps the Adviser had taken or was taking to improve performance.
- For Janus Henderson Global Technology and Innovation Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the second Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2021 and the second Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2021.
- For Janus Henderson Mid Cap Value Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2021 and the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2021. The Trustees noted the reasons for the Fund's underperformance, while also noting that the Fund has a performance fee structure that results in lower management fees during periods of underperformance, and the steps the Adviser had taken or was taking to improve performance.
- For Janus Henderson Overseas Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the second Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2021 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2021.
- For Janus Henderson Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the third Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2021 and the third Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2021. The Trustees noted the reasons for the Fund's underperformance, while also noting that the Fund has a performance fee structure that results in lower management fees during periods of underperformance, and the steps the Adviser had taken or was taking to improve performance.
- For Janus Henderson U.S. Low Volatility Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2021 and the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2021. The Trustees noted the reasons for the Fund's underperformance and the steps the Adviser and subadviser had taken or were taking to improve performance.

In consideration of each Janus Henderson Fund's performance, the Trustees concluded that, taking into account the factors relevant to performance, as well as other considerations, including steps taken to improve performance, the Janus Henderson Fund's performance warranted continuation of such Janus Henderson Fund's investment advisory and subadvisory agreement(s).

#### **Costs of Services Provided**

The Trustees examined information regarding the fees and expenses of each Janus Henderson Fund in comparison to similar information for other comparable funds as provided by Broadridge, an independent data provider. They also reviewed an analysis of that information provided by their independent fee consultant and noted that the rate of management fees (investment advisory fees and any administration fees but excluding out-of-pocket costs) for many of the Janus Henderson Funds, after applicable waivers, was below the average management fee rate of the respective peer group of funds selected by an independent data provider. The Trustees also examined information regarding the subadvisory fees charged for subadvisory services, as applicable, noting that all such fees were paid by the Adviser out of its management fees collected from such Janus Henderson Fund.

The independent fee consultant provided its belief that the management fees charged by the Adviser to each of the Janus Henderson Funds under the current investment advisory and administration agreements are reasonable in relation to the services provided by the Adviser. The independent fee consultant found: (1) the total expenses and management fees of the Janus Henderson Funds to be reasonable relative to other comparable mutual funds; (2) the total expenses, on average, were 8% under the average total expenses of the respective Broadridge Expense Group peers; and (3) the management fees for the Janus Henderson Funds, on average, were 6% under the average management fees for the respective Broadridge Expense Group. The Trustees also considered the total expenses for each share class of each Janus Henderson Fund compared to the average total expenses for its Broadridge Expense Group and to average total expenses for its Broadridge Expense Universe.

For certain Janus Henderson Funds, the independent fee consultant also performed a systematic "focus list" analysis of expenses which assessed fund fees in the context of fund performance being delivered. Based on this analysis, the

## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

### Additional Information (unaudited)

independent fee consultant found that the combination of service quality/performance and expenses on these individual Janus Henderson Funds was reasonable in light of performance trends, performance histories, and existence of performance fees, breakpoints, and/or expense waivers on such Janus Henderson Funds.

The Trustees considered the methodology used by the Adviser and subadviser in determining compensation payable to portfolio managers, the competitive environment for investment management talent, and the competitive market for mutual funds in different distribution channels.

The Trustees also reviewed management fees charged by the Adviser and subadviser to comparable separate account clients and to comparable non-affiliated funds subadvised by the Adviser or subadviser (for which the Adviser or the subadviser provides only or primarily portfolio management services). Although in most instances subadvisory and separate account fee rates for various investment strategies were lower than management fee rates for Janus Henderson Funds having a similar strategy, the Trustees considered that the Adviser noted that, under the terms of the management agreements with the Janus Henderson Funds, the Adviser performs significant additional services for the Janus Henderson Funds that it does not provide to those other clients, including administration services, oversight of the Janus Henderson Funds' other service providers, trustee support, regulatory compliance and numerous other services, and that, in serving the Janus Henderson Funds, the Adviser assumes many legal risks and other costs that it does not assume in servicing its other clients. Moreover, the Trustees noted that the independent fee consultant found that: (1) the management fees the Adviser charges to the Janus Henderson Funds are reasonable in relation to the management fees the Adviser charges to funds subadvised by the Adviser and to the fees the Adviser charges to its institutional separate account clients; (2) these subadvised and institutional separate accounts have different service and infrastructure needs and operate in markets very distinct relative to retail funds; (3) Janus Henderson mutual fund investors enjoy reasonable fees relative to the fees charged to Janus Henderson subadvised fund and separate account investors; and (4) as part of its 2020 review, 9 of 10 Janus Henderson Funds have lower management fees than similar funds subadvised by the Adviser.

The Trustees considered the fees for each Janus Henderson Fund for its fiscal year ended in 2020, including the VIT Portfolios, and noted the following with regard to each VIT Portfolio's total expenses, net of applicable fee waivers (the VIT Portfolio's "total expenses"):

- For Janus Henderson Balanced Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the Fund's total expenses exceeded the peer group average for one share class, overall the Fund's total expenses were reasonable.
- For Janus Henderson Enterprise Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the Fund's total expenses exceeded the peer group average for one share class, overall the Fund's total expenses were reasonable.
- For Janus Henderson Flexible Bond Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the Fund's total expenses exceeded the peer group for one share class, overall the Fund's total expenses were reasonable. The Trustees also noted that the Adviser has contractually agreed to limit the Fund's expenses.
- For Janus Henderson Forty Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the Fund's total expenses exceeded the peer group average for one share class, overall the Fund's total expenses were reasonable.
- For Janus Henderson Global Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the Fund's total expenses exceeded the peer group average for one share class, overall the Fund's total expenses were reasonable.
- For Janus Henderson Global Technology and Innovation Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's total expenses were below the peer group for both share classes.
- For Janus Henderson Mid Cap Value Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the Fund's total expenses exceeded the peer group for one share class, overall the Fund's total expenses were reasonable. The Trustees also noted that the Adviser has contractually agreed to limit the Fund's expenses, although this limit did not apply because the Fund's total expenses were already below the applicable fee limit.
- For Janus Henderson Overseas Portfolio, the Trustees noted that although the Fund's total expenses exceeded the peer group average for one share class, overall the Fund's total expenses were reasonable.
- For Janus Henderson Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's total expenses were below the peer group average for both share classes.

## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

### Additional Information (unaudited)

- For Janus Henderson U.S. Low Volatility Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's total expenses were below the peer group for its sole share class.

The Trustees reviewed information on the overall profitability to the Adviser and its affiliates from their relationships with the Janus Henderson Funds, and considered profitability data of other publicly traded mutual fund advisers. The Trustees recognized that profitability comparisons among fund managers are difficult because of the variation in the type of comparative information that is publicly available, and the profitability of any fund manager is affected by numerous factors, including the organizational structure of the particular fund manager, differences in complex size, difference in product mix, difference in types of business (mutual fund, institutional and other), differences in the types of funds and other accounts it manages, possible other lines of business, the methodology for allocating expenses and the fund manager's capital structure and cost of capital.

Additionally, the Trustees considered the estimated profitability to the Adviser from the investment management services it provided to each Janus Henderson Fund. In their review, the Trustees considered whether the Adviser and subadviser receive adequate incentives and resources to manage the Janus Henderson Funds effectively. In reviewing profitability, the Trustees noted that the estimated profitability for an individual Janus Henderson Fund is necessarily a product of the allocation methodology utilized by the Adviser to allocate its expenses as part of the estimated profitability calculation. In this regard, the Trustees noted that the independent fee consultant found that (1) the expense allocation methodology and rationales utilized by the Adviser were reasonable and (2) no clear correlation exists between expense allocations and operating margins. The Trustees also considered that the estimated profitability for an individual Janus Henderson Fund was influenced by a number of factors, including not only the allocation methodology selected, but also the presence of fee waivers and expense caps, and whether the Janus Henderson Fund's investment management agreement contained breakpoints or a performance fee component. The Trustees determined, after taking into account these factors, among others, that the Adviser's estimated profitability with respect to each Janus Henderson Fund was not unreasonable in relation to the services provided, and that the variation in the range of such estimated profitability among the Janus Henderson Funds was not a material factor in the Board's approval of the reasonableness of any Janus Henderson Fund's investment management fees.

The Trustees concluded that the management fees payable by each Janus Henderson Fund to the Adviser and its affiliates, as well as the fees paid by the Adviser to the subadviser of subadvised Janus Henderson Funds, were reasonable in relation to the nature, extent, and quality of the services provided, taking into account the fees charged by other advisers for managing comparable mutual funds with similar strategies, the fees the Adviser and the subadviser charge to other clients, and, as applicable, the impact of fund performance on management fees payable by the Janus Henderson Funds. The Trustees also concluded that each Janus Henderson Fund's total expenses were reasonable, taking into account the size of the Janus Henderson Fund, the quality of services provided by the Adviser and subadviser, the investment performance of the Janus Henderson Fund, and any expense limitations agreed to or provided by the Adviser.

#### ***Economies of Scale***

The Trustees considered information about the potential for the Adviser to realize economies of scale as the assets of the Janus Henderson Funds increase. They noted that their independent fee consultant published a report to the Trustees in November 2019 which provided its research and analysis into economies of scale. They also noted that, although many Janus Henderson Funds pay advisory fees at a fixed base rate as a percentage of net assets, without any breakpoints or performance fees, their independent fee consultant concluded that 75% of these Janus Henderson Funds' have contractual management fees (gross of waivers) below their Broadridge Expense Group averages. The Trustees also noted the following: (1) that for those Janus Henderson Funds whose expenses are being reduced by the contractual expense limitations of the Adviser, the Adviser is subsidizing certain of these Janus Henderson Funds because they have not reached adequate scale; (2) performance fee structures have been implemented for various Janus Henderson Funds that have caused the effective rate of advisory fees payable by such Janus Henderson Fund to vary depending on the investment performance of the Janus Henderson Fund relative to its benchmark index over the measurement period; and (3) a few Janus Henderson Funds have fee schedules with breakpoints and reduced fee rates above certain asset levels. The Trustees also noted that the Janus Henderson Funds share directly in economies of scale through the significant investments made by the Adviser and its affiliates related to services provided to the Funds and the lower charges of third-party service providers that are based in part on the combined scale of all of the Janus Henderson Funds.

## **Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio**

### **Additional Information (unaudited)**

The Trustees also considered the independent fee consultant's conclusion that, given the limitations of various analytical approaches to economies of scale and their conflicting results, it is difficult to analytically confirm or deny the existence of economies of scale in the Janus Henderson complex. In this regard, the independent consultant concluded that (1) to the extent there were economies of scale at the Adviser, the Adviser's general strategy of setting fixed management fees below peers appeared to share any such economies with investors even on smaller Janus Henderson Funds which have not yet achieved those economies and (2) by setting lower fixed fees from the start on these Janus Henderson Funds, the Adviser appeared to be investing to increase the likelihood that these Janus Henderson Funds will grow to a level to achieve any economies of scale that may exist. Further, the independent fee consultant provided its belief that Janus Henderson Fund investors are well-served by the fee levels and performance fee structures in place on the Janus Henderson Funds in light of any economies of scale that may be present at the Adviser.

Based on all of the information reviewed, including the recent and past research and analysis conducted by the Trustees' independent fee consultant, the Trustees concluded that the current fee structure of each Janus Henderson Fund was reasonable and that the current rates of fees do reflect a sharing between the Adviser and the Janus Henderson Fund of any economies of scale that may be present at the current asset level of the Janus Henderson Fund.

#### ***Other Benefits to the Adviser***

The Trustees also considered benefits that accrue to the Adviser and its affiliates and subadviser to the Janus Henderson Funds from their relationships with the Janus Henderson Funds. They recognized that two affiliates of the Adviser separately serve the Janus Henderson Funds as transfer agent and distributor, respectively, and the transfer agent receives compensation directly from the non-money market funds for services provided, and that such compensation contributes to the overall profitability of the Adviser and its affiliates that results from their relationship with the Janus Henderson Funds. The Trustees also considered the Adviser's past and proposed use of commissions paid by the Janus Henderson Funds on portfolio brokerage transactions to obtain proprietary and third-party research products and services benefiting the Janus Henderson Fund and/or other clients of the Adviser and/or the Adviser, and/or subadviser to a Janus Henderson Fund. The Trustees concluded that the Adviser's and the subadviser's use of these types of client commission arrangements to obtain proprietary and third-party research products and services was consistent with regulatory requirements and guidelines and was likely to benefit each Janus Henderson Fund. The Trustees also concluded that, other than the services provided by the Adviser and its affiliates and subadviser pursuant to the agreements and the fees to be paid by each Janus Henderson Fund therefor, the Janus Henderson Funds and the Adviser and the subadviser may potentially benefit from their relationship with each other in other ways. They concluded that the Adviser and its affiliates share directly in economies of scale through the lower charges of third-party service providers that are based in part on the combined scale of the Janus Henderson Funds and other clients serviced by the Adviser and its affiliates. They also concluded that the Adviser and the subadviser benefit from the receipt of research products and services acquired through commissions paid on portfolio transactions of the Janus Henderson Funds and that the Janus Henderson Funds benefit from the Adviser's and/or the subadviser's receipt of those products and services as well as research products and services acquired through commissions paid by other clients of the Adviser and/or other clients of the subadviser. They further concluded that the success of any Janus Henderson Fund could attract other business to the Adviser, the subadviser or other Janus Henderson funds, and that the success of the Adviser and the subadviser could enhance the Adviser's and the subadviser's ability to serve the Janus Henderson Funds.

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report (unaudited)

### Management Commentary

The Management Commentary in this report includes valuable insight as well as statistical information to help you understand how your Portfolio's performance and characteristics stack up against those of comparable indices.

If the Portfolio invests in foreign securities, this report may include information about country exposure. Country exposure is based primarily on the country of risk. A company may be allocated to a country based on other factors such as location of the company's principal office, the location of the principal trading market for the company's securities, or the country where a majority of the company's revenues are derived.

Please keep in mind that the opinions expressed in the Management Commentary are just that: opinions. They are a reflection based on best judgment at the time this report was compiled, which was December 31, 2021. As the investing environment changes, so could opinions. These views are unique and are not necessarily shared by fellow employees or by Janus Henderson in general.

### Performance Overviews

Performance overview graphs compare the performance of a hypothetical \$10,000 investment in the Portfolio with one or more widely used market indices. When comparing the performance of the Portfolio with an index, keep in mind that market indices are not available for investment and do not reflect deduction of expenses.

Average annual total returns are quoted for a Portfolio with more than one year of performance history. Average annual total return is calculated by taking the growth or decline in value of an investment over a period of time, including reinvestment of dividends and distributions, then calculating the annual compounded percentage rate that would have produced the same result had the rate of growth been constant throughout the period. Average annual total return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Portfolio distributions or redemptions of Portfolio shares.

Cumulative total returns are quoted for a Portfolio with less than one year of performance history. Cumulative total return is the growth or decline in value of an investment over time, independent of the period of time involved. Cumulative total return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Portfolio distributions or redemptions of Portfolio shares.

Pursuant to federal securities rules, expense ratios shown in the performance chart reflect subsidized (if applicable) and unsubsidized ratios. The total annual fund operating expenses ratio is gross of any fee waivers, reflecting the Portfolio's unsubsidized expense ratio. The net annual fund operating expenses ratio (if applicable) includes contractual waivers of the Adviser and reflects the Portfolio's subsidized expense ratio. Ratios may be higher or lower than those shown in the "Financial Highlights" in this report.

### Schedule of Investments

Following the performance overview section is the Portfolio's Schedule of Investments. This schedule reports the types of securities held in the Portfolio on the last day of the reporting period. Securities are usually listed by type (common stock, corporate bonds, U.S. Government obligations, etc.) and by industry classification (banking, communications, insurance, etc.). Holdings are subject to change without notice.

The value of each security is quoted as of the last day of the reporting period. The value of securities denominated in foreign currencies is converted into U.S. dollars.

If the Portfolio invests in foreign securities, it will also provide a summary of investments by country. This summary reports the Portfolio exposure to different countries by providing the percentage of securities invested in each country. The country of each security represents the country of risk. The Portfolio's Schedule of Investments relies upon the industry group and country classifications published by Bloomberg and/or MSCI Inc.

Tables listing details of individual forward currency contracts, futures, written options, swaptions, and swaps follow the Portfolio's Schedule of Investments (if applicable).

### Statement of Assets and Liabilities

This statement is often referred to as the "balance sheet." It lists the assets and liabilities of the Portfolio on the last day of the reporting period.

## **Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio**

### **Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report (unaudited)**

The Portfolio's assets are calculated by adding the value of the securities owned, the receivable for securities sold but not yet settled, the receivable for dividends declared but not yet received on securities owned, and the receivable for Portfolio shares sold to investors but not yet settled. The Portfolio's liabilities include payables for securities purchased but not yet settled, Portfolio shares redeemed but not yet paid, and expenses owed but not yet paid. Additionally, there may be other assets and liabilities such as unrealized gain or loss on forward currency contracts.

The section entitled "Net Assets Consist of" breaks down the components of the Portfolio's net assets. Because the Portfolio must distribute substantially all earnings, you will notice that a significant portion of net assets is shareholder capital.

The last section of this statement reports the net asset value ("NAV") per share on the last day of the reporting period. The NAV is calculated by dividing the Portfolio's net assets for each share class (assets minus liabilities) by the number of shares outstanding.

#### **Statement of Operations**

This statement details the Portfolio's income, expenses, realized gains and losses on securities and currency transactions, and changes in unrealized appreciation or depreciation of Portfolio holdings.

The first section in this statement, entitled "Investment Income," reports the dividends earned from securities and interest earned from interest-bearing securities in the Portfolio.

The next section reports the expenses incurred by the Portfolio, including the advisory fee paid to the investment adviser, transfer agent fees and expenses, and printing and postage for mailing statements, financial reports and prospectuses. Expense offsets and expense reimbursements, if any, are also shown.

The last section lists the amounts of realized gains or losses from investment and foreign currency transactions, and changes in unrealized appreciation or depreciation of investments and foreign currency-denominated assets and liabilities. The Portfolio will realize a gain (or loss) when it sells its position in a particular security. A change in unrealized gain (or loss) refers to the change in net appreciation or depreciation of the Portfolio during the reporting period. "Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments" is affected both by changes in the market value of Portfolio holdings and by gains (or losses) realized during the reporting period.

#### **Statements of Changes in Net Assets**

These statements report the increase or decrease in the Portfolio's net assets during the reporting period. Changes in the Portfolio's net assets are attributable to investment operations, dividends and distributions to investors, and capital share transactions. This is important to investors because it shows exactly what caused the Portfolio's net asset size to change during the period.

The first section summarizes the information from the Statement of Operations regarding changes in net assets due to the Portfolio's investment operations. The Portfolio's net assets may also change as a result of dividend and capital gains distributions to investors. If investors receive their dividends and/or distributions in cash, money is taken out of the Portfolio to pay the dividend and/or distribution. If investors reinvest their dividends and/or distributions, the Portfolio's net assets will not be affected.

The reinvestment of dividends and distributions is included under "Capital Share Transactions." "Capital Shares" refers to the money investors contribute to the Portfolio through purchases or withdrawals via redemptions. The Portfolio's net assets will increase and decrease in value as investors purchase and redeem shares from the Portfolio.

#### **Financial Highlights**

This schedule provides a per-share breakdown of the components that affect the Portfolio's NAV for current and past reporting periods as well as total return, asset size, ratios, and portfolio turnover rate.

The first line in the table reflects the NAV per share at the beginning of the reporting period. The next line reports the net investment income/(loss) per share. Following is the per share total of net gains/(losses), realized and unrealized. Per share dividends and distributions to investors are then subtracted to arrive at the NAV per share at the end of the period. The next line reflects the total return for the period. The total return may include adjustments in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles required at the period end for financial reporting purposes. As a result, the total return may differ from the total return reflected for individual shareholder transactions. Also included are ratios of expenses and net investment income to average net assets.

## **Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio**

### **Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report (unaudited)**

The Portfolio's expenses may be reduced through expense offsets and expense reimbursements. The ratios shown reflect expenses before and after any such offsets and reimbursements.

The ratio of net investment income/(loss) summarizes the income earned less expenses, divided by the average net assets of the Portfolio during the reporting period. Do not confuse this ratio with the Portfolio's yield. The net investment income ratio is not a true measure of the Portfolio's yield because it does not take into account the dividends distributed to the Portfolio's investors.

The next figure is the portfolio turnover rate, which measures the buying and selling activity in the Portfolio. Portfolio turnover is affected by market conditions, changes in the asset size of the Portfolio, fluctuating volume of shareholder purchase and redemption orders, the nature of the Portfolio's investments, and the investment style and/or outlook of the portfolio manager(s) and/or investment personnel. A 100% rate implies that an amount equal to the value of the entire portfolio was replaced once during the fiscal year; a 50% rate means that an amount equal to the value of half the portfolio is traded in a year; and a 200% rate means that an amount equal to the value of the entire portfolio is traded every six months.



## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio Designation Requirements (unaudited)

For federal income tax purposes, the Portfolio designated the following for the year ended December 31, 2021:

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Capital Gain Distributions	\$41,475,093
Dividends Received Deduction Percentage	68%

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## **Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio**

### **Trustees and Officers (unaudited)**

The following are the Trustees and officers of the Trust, together with a brief description of their principal occupations during the last five years (principal occupations for certain Trustees may include periods over five years). The Portfolio's Statement of Additional Information includes additional information about the Trustees and officers and is available, without charge, by calling 1-877-335-2687.

Each Trustee has served in that capacity since he or she was originally elected or appointed. The Trustees do not serve a specified term of office. Each Trustee will hold office until the termination of the Trust or his or her earlier death, resignation, retirement, incapacity, or removal. Under the Portfolio's Governance Procedures and Guidelines, the policy is for Trustees to retire no later than the end of the calendar year in which the Trustee turns 75. The Trustees review the Portfolio's Governance Procedures and Guidelines from time to time and may make changes they deem appropriate. The Portfolio's Nominating and Governance Committee will consider nominees for the position of Trustee recommended by shareholders. Shareholders may submit the name of a candidate for consideration by the Committee by submitting their recommendations to the Trust's Secretary. Each Trustee is currently a Trustee of one other registered investment company advised by the Adviser: Janus Investment Fund. Collectively, these two registered investment companies consist of 52 series or funds referred to herein as the Fund Complex.

The Trust's officers are elected annually by the Trustees for a one-year term. Certain officers also serve as officers of Janus Investment Fund. Certain officers of the Portfolio may also be officers and/or directors of the Adviser. Except as otherwise disclosed, Portfolio officers receive no compensation from the Portfolio, except for the Portfolio's Chief Compliance Officer, as authorized by the Trustees.

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### TRUSTEES

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios/Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years
<b>Independent Trustees</b>					
William F. McCalpin 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1957	Chairman  Trustee	1/08- Present  6/02- Present	Independent Consultant (since 2019) and Chief Operating Officer, muun chi LLC (organic food business) (since 2020). Formerly, Managing Partner, Impact Investments, Athena Capital Advisors LLC (independent registered investment advisor) (2016-2019), Managing Director, Holos Consulting LLC (provides consulting services to foundations and other nonprofit organizations) (2009-2016), Chief Executive Officer, Imprint Capital Advisors (impact investment firm) (2013-2015), and Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of The Rockefeller Brothers Fund (a private family foundation) (1998-2006).	52	Chairman of the Board and Trustee of The Investment Fund for Foundations Investment Program (TIP) (consisting of 1 fund) (since 2008), and Director of the F.B. Heron Foundation (a private grantmaking foundation) (since 2006). Formerly, Director of Mutual Fund Directors Forum (a non-profit organization serving independent directors of U.S. mutual funds) (2016-2021).

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### TRUSTEES

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios/Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years
<b>Independent Trustees</b>					
Alan A. Brown 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1962	Trustee	1/13- Present	Principal, Curam Holdings LLC (since 2018). Formerly, Executive Vice President, Institutional Markets, of Black Creek Group (private equity real estate investment management firm) (2012-2018), Executive Vice President and Co-Head, Global Private Client Group (2007-2010), Executive Vice President, Mutual Funds (2005-2007), and Chief Marketing Officer (2001-2005) of Nuveen Investments, Inc. (asset management).	52	Advisory Board Member of AEW Core Property Trust (open-end property fund) (since 2020), and Director of WTTW (PBS affiliate) (since 2003). Formerly, Director of MotiveQuest LLC (strategic social market research company) (2003-2016), Director of Nuveen Global Investors LLC (2007-2011), Director of Communities in Schools (2004-2010), and Director of Mutual Fund Education Alliance (until 2010).

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### TRUSTEES

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios/Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years
<b>Independent Trustees</b>					
William D. Cvengros 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1948	Trustee	1/11- Present	Chief Executive Officer of SJC Capital, LLC (a personal investment company and consulting firm) (since 2002). Formerly, Chief Executive Officer and President of PIMCO Advisors Holdings L.P. (a publicly traded investment management firm) (1994-2000), and Chief Investment Officer (1987-1994) and Vice Chairman and Director (1990-1994) of Pacific Life Insurance Company (a mutual life insurance and annuity company) (1987-1994).	52	Member, Limited Partner Advisory Committee, Karmel Capital Fund III (since 2022), Member of the Investmtnet Committee for the Orange Country Community Foundation (a grantmaking foundation) (since 2020), Advisory Board Member, RevOZ Fund LP and related funds (real estate investments for opportunity zones) (since 2020), and Advisory Board Member, Innovate Partners Emerging Growth and Equity Fund I (early stage venture capital fund) (since 2014). Formerly, Managing Trustee of National Retirement Partners Liquidating Trust (2013-2016), Chairman, National Retirement Partners, Inc. (formerly a network of advisors to 401(k) plans) (2005-2013), Director of Prospect Acquisition Corp. (a special purpose acquisition corporation) (2007-2009), Director of RemedyTemp, Inc. (temporary help services company) (1996-2006), and Trustee of PIMCO Funds Multi-Manager Series (1990-2000) and Pacific Life Variable Life & Annuity Trusts (1987-1994).

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### TRUSTEES

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios/Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years
<b>Independent Trustees</b>					
Raudline Etienne 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1965	Trustee	6/16- Present	Founder, Daraja Capital (advisory and investment firm) (since 2016). Formerly, Senior Vice President and Senior Advisor, Albright Stonebridge Group LLC (global strategy firm) (2011-2021), and Deputy Comptroller and Chief Investment Officer, New York State Common Retirement Fund (public pension fund) (2008-2011).	52	Member of the Investment Committee for Cooper Union (private college) (since 2021), Board Member, Van Alen Institute (nonprofit architectural and design organization) (since 2019) and Director of Brightwood Capital Advisors, LLC (since 2014).
Gary A. Poliner 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1953	Trustee	6/16- Present	Retired. Formerly, President (2010-2013) of Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company.	52	Director of MGIC Investment Corporation (private mortgage insurance) (since 2013). Formerly, Director, West Bend Mutual Insurance Company (property/casualty insurance) (2013-2021), Trustee of Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company (2010-2013) and Director of Frank Russell Company (global asset management firm) (2008-2013).

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio

## Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### TRUSTEES

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios/Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years
<b>Independent Trustees</b>					
Diane L. Wallace 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1958	Trustee	6/17- Present	Retired. Formerly, Chief Operating Officer, Senior Vice President-Operations, and Chief Financial Officer for Driehaus Capital Management, LLC (1988-2006) and Treasurer for Driehaus Mutual Funds (1996-2002).	52	Formerly, Director of Family Service of Lake County (2019-2021), Independent Trustee, Henderson Global Funds (13 portfolios) (2015-2017), Independent Trustee, State Farm Associates' Funds Trust, State Farm Mutual Fund Trust, and State Farm Variable Product Trust (28 portfolios) (2013-2017).
Linda S. Wolf 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1947	Trustee	11/05- Present	Retired. Formerly, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Leo Burnett (Worldwide) (advertising agency) (2001-2005).	52	Director of Chicago Community Trust (Regional Community Foundation), Lurie Children's Hospital (Chicago, IL), and Shirley Ryan Ability Lab. Formerly, Director of Wrapports, LLC (until 2022), Director of Chicago Council on Global Affairs (until 2019), InnerWorkings (until 2019) and Director of Walmart (until 2017).

## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### OFFICERS

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Term of Office* and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years
Michelle Rosenberg 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1973	Interim President and Chief Executive Officer	1/22-Present	General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Janus Henderson Investors (since 2018). Formerly, Senior Vice President and Head of Legal, North America of Janus Henderson Investors (2017-2018) and Deputy General Counsel of Janus Henderson US (Holdings), Inc. (2015-2018).
Kristin Mariani 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1966	Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer, and Anti-Money Laundering Officer	7/20-Present	Head of Compliance, North America for Janus Henderson Investors (since September 2020), and Chief Compliance Officer for Janus Henderson Investors US LLC (since September 2017). Formerly, Global Head of Investment Management Compliance for Janus Henderson Investors (February 2019-August 2020), Vice President, Head of Global Distribution Compliance and Chief Compliance Officer of Janus Henderson Distributors US LLC (May 2017-September 2017), Vice President, Compliance at Janus Henderson US (Holdings) Inc., Janus Henderson Investors US LLC, and Janus Henderson Distributors US LLC (2009-2017).

\* Officers are elected at least annually by the Trustees for a one-year term and may also be elected from time to time by the Trustees for an interim period.



## Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### OFFICERS

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Term of Office* and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years
Jesper Nergaard 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1962	Chief Financial Officer	3/05-Present	Head of U.S. Fund Administration, Janus Henderson Investors and Janus Henderson Services US LLC.
	Vice President, Treasurer, and Principal Accounting Officer	2/05-Present	
Abigail J. Murray 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1975	Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, and Secretary	12/20-Present	Managing Counsel (2020-present). Formerly, Senior Counsel for Invesco Ltd. (2017-2020), and Vice President and Senior Counsel, ALPS Fund Services, Inc. and Assistant General Counsel, ALPS Advisors, Inc. (2015-2017).

\* Officers are elected at least annually by the Trustees for a one-year term and may also be elected from time to time by the Trustees for an interim period.

# Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio Notes

**Janus Henderson VIT Global Research Portfolio  
Notes**

**Janus Henderson**  
—INVESTORS—

***This report is submitted for the general information of shareholders of the Portfolio. It is not an offer or solicitation for the Portfolio and is not authorized for distribution to prospective investors unless preceded or accompanied by an effective prospectus.***

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**Variable Portfolio Funds**

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Minneapolis, MN 55474