

# First Trust Exchange-Traded Fund VIII

# PROSPECTUS

# FT Energy Income Partners Enhanced Income ETF

Ticker Symbol: EIPI

Exchange: NYSE Arca

FT Energy Income Partners Enhanced Income ETF (the "Fund") lists and principally trades its shares on NYSE Arca, Inc. ("NYSE Arca" or the "Exchange"). Market prices may differ to some degree from the net asset value of the shares. Unlike mutual funds, the Fund issues and redeems shares at net asset value, only in large blocks of shares called "Creation Units."

The Fund is a series of First Trust Exchange-Traded Fund VIII (the "Trust") and an actively managed exchange-traded fund organized as a separate series of a registered management investment company.

Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the shares are not redeemable securities of the Fund.

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

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# **SUMMARY INFORMATION**

### **Investment Objective**

The FT Energy Income Partners Enhanced Income ETF (the "Fund") seeks a high level of total return with an emphasis on current distributions paid to shareholders.

### Fees and Expenses of the Fund

The following table describes the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **Investors may** pay other fees, such as brokerage commissions and other fees to financial intermediaries, which are not reflected in the table and example below.

#### Shareholder Fees

(fees paid directly from your investment)

| Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Purchases (as a percentage of offering price) | None  |
|--|-------|
| Annual Fund Operating Expenses   |       |
| (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)    |       |
| Management Fees <sup>(1)</sup>   | 1.10% |
| Distribution and Service (12b-1) Fees  | 0.00% |
| Other Expenses <sup>(1)</sup>  | 0.00% |
| Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses  | 0.01% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>(1)</sup>                                  | 1.11% |

<sup>(1) &</sup>quot;Management Fees", "Other Expenses" and "Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses" have been restated to reflect current fees.

### Example

The example below is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then hold or sell all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain at current levels. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

| 1 Y | /ear 3 | Years 5 | 5 Years 1 | LO Years |
|-----|--------|---------|-----------|----------|
| \$1 | 113    | \$353   | \$612     | \$1,352  |

### **Portfolio Turnover**

The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, affect the Fund's performance. As a result of a series of mergers (the "Mergers") described in further detail below, the Fund acquired all of the assets, subject to the liabilities, of First Trust Energy Income and Growth Fund, First Trust MLP and Energy Income Fund, First Trust New Opportunities MLP & Energy Fund and First Trust Energy Infrastructure Fund, each a closed-end investment management company. First Trust Energy Infrastructure Fund serves as the Fund's accounting predecessor (the "Predecessor Fund"). Accordingly, the portfolio turnover rate set forth below represents a blended portfolio turnover rate of both the Predecessor Fund and the Fund for the fiscal year. During the most recent fiscal year, the blended portfolio turnover rate was 114% of the average value of its portfolio.

### **Principal Investment Strategies**

Under normal market conditions, the Fund will pursue its investment objective by investing primarily in a portfolio of equity securities in the broader energy market ("Energy Companies"). Under normal market conditions, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in securities of, and/or investments that provide exposure to, Energy Companies (as defined below).

Energy Companies include companies in the Global Industry Classification Standard ("GICS") energy sector, companies in the GICS utility sector (excluding water utilities), or companies in any other GICS sectors that derive at least 50% of their revenues

or profits from exploration, development, production, gathering, transportation, processing, storing, refining, distribution, mining or marketing, of natural gas, natural gas liquids (including propane), crude oil, refined petroleum products, petrochemicals, electricity, coal, uranium, hydrogen or other energy sources, renewable energy production, renewable energy equipment, energy storage, carbon, carbon dioxide and fugitive methane mitigation and management, as well as electric transmission, distribution, storage and system reliability support (collectively, "energy-related activities"). Energy Companies also include companies providing engineering, consulting and construction services that derive at least 50% of their revenues or profits from energy-related activities, all of which are selected by Energy Income Partners, LLC, the Fund's investment sub-advisor ("Energy Income Partners" or the "Sub-Advisor"). These companies may include publicly-traded master limited partnerships or limited liability companies taxed as partnerships ("MLPs") and MLP affiliates.

The Fund's portfolio will be selected based upon the Sub-Advisor's belief that a professionally managed portfolio of Energy Companies offers an attractive balance of income and growth through a combination of dividends and capital appreciation. The Sub-Advisor believes that rapid changes to the energy system driven by innovations like oil and gas completions technologies, renewable energy and energy storage as well as government policies relating to the energy system's emissions, safety, reliability, resilience and national security have created a wider range of and more diversified opportunities in the energy sector than in the past.

In selecting the Fund's portfolio, the Sub-Advisor focuses primarily on a company's yield, growth, and valuation. In evaluating yield, the Sub-Advisor seeks companies with stable cash flows and higher-than-average dividend payout ratios or companies with cyclical cash flows that have lower and more sustainable dividend payout ratios. In evaluating growth, the Sub-Advisor focuses on increasing per share earnings and cash flow, with a belief that free cash flow can drive reinvestment or share repurchase, each of which can drive per share growth. Finally, in evaluating a company's valuation, the Sub-Advisor seeks companies that have the potential to experience positive changes in value, where business restructuring, changes in management or asset mix, or changes in government policy may positively impact investor perception about a company's future. Through the analysis described above, and use of rigorous investment research and analytical tools applied to stock selection and portfolio construction, the Sub-Advisor selects companies for the Fund's portfolio that it believes have the best potential to achieve the Fund's investment objective. The Fund may invest in U.S. and non-U.S. companies, including depositary receipts and investments that are denominated in U.S. or non-U.S. currencies, with various market capitalizations.

As determined by the Sub-Advisor, the Fund will also enhance the Fund's income paying capacity by selling call options on a portion of the value of the Fund. Income is received by an investor who sells an option contract to another party. The option strategy will consist of writing "covered calls" and writing calls on energy indexes and/or exchange-traded funds ("ETFs") with a correlation to the equity securities held by the Fund. The covered call option portion of the strategy is "covered" because the Fund owns the equity security underlying the call option. When the Fund sells a covered call option, the Fund has the obligation to sell the equity security at a specified price (the "strike price"), or deliver a cash payment equal to any positive difference between the value of the equity security when the option is exercised and the strike price. In the event the equity security appreciates above the strike price and the purchaser exercises the written option, the Fund as the writer (seller) of the call option will have to either sell the equity security at the strike price or pay the difference between the value of the equity security and the strike price (which loss is offset by the premium initially received). In the event the equity security declines in value, the call option may end up worthless and the Fund as the writer (seller) of the call option retains the premium. In addition to writing covered calls on individual securities, the Fund will also write calls on energy indexes and/or ETFs. When the Fund sells a call option on an index or an ETF, the call is "uncovered" (i.e., the Fund does not own the underlying security), therefore the potential losses on such call options are theoretically unlimited. Additionally, when the Fund sells a call option on an ETF, it may be required to acquire shares of the ETF in order to satisfy it's obligation on the call option, which could result in additional costs to the Fund.

By combining premiums collected from the sale of calls with the dividend income of the equity securities, the Fund seeks to increase total income for investors while still participating in the growth potential from the price appreciation of the stocks held by the Fund. The call options written by the Fund will generally have expirations of between one month and three months. Generally, the Fund will write (sell) call options on approximately 25-75% of the net asset value of the Fund but maintains flexibility to increase this depending on the amount needed to maintain an attractive level of current distributions. The call options written by the Fund will be typically written out-of-the-money, but the Fund may also utilize at-the-money call options. An out-of-the-money call option has a strike price that is greater than the price of the equity security at the time the call option is sold. An at-the-money call option has a strike price that is approximately equal to the price of the equity security at the time the call option is sold. The Fund's strategy may involve frequently buying and selling portfolio securities. The Sub-Advisor may remove securities from the portfolio when such securities, in the opinion of the Sub-Advisor, are no longer appropriate for seeking to meet the Fund's investment objective.

As of February 28, 2025, the Fund had significant investments in Energy Companies, although this may change from time to time. Over time, the Fund may have significant investments in jurisdictions or investment sectors that it may not have had as of February 28, 2025. To the extent the Fund invests a significant portion of its assets in a given jurisdiction or investment sector, the Fund may be exposed to the risks associated with that jurisdiction or investment sector. While the Fund may invest in equity securities of MLPs, the Fund will limit its investment in MLPs, or other companies taxed as partnerships in order to comply with applicable tax diversification rules.

The Fund's investments will be concentrated (i.e., invest more than 25% of Fund assets) in any one industry or group of industries constituting the energy sector.

The Fund is classified as "non-diversified" under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act").

### **Principal Risks**

You could lose money by investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit of a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency. There can be no assurance that the Fund's investment objective will be achieved. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

**AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT CONCENTRATION RISK.** Only an authorized participant may engage in creation or redemption transactions directly with the Fund. A limited number of institutions act as authorized participants for the Fund. To the extent that these institutions exit the business or are unable to proceed with creation and/or redemption orders and no other authorized participant steps forward to create or redeem, the Fund's shares may trade at a premium or discount (the difference between the market price of the Fund's shares and the Fund's net asset value) and possibly face delisting and the bid/ask spread (the difference between the price that someone is willing to pay for shares of the Fund at a specific point in time versus the price at which someone is willing to sell) on the Fund's shares may widen.

CALL OPTIONS RISK. The use of call options involves risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. As the seller (writer) of a call option, the Fund will tend to lose money if the value of the reference index or security rises above the strike price, however, such loss will be partially offset by any premium received from the sale of the option. When writing a call option, the Fund will have no control over the exercise of the option by the option holder and the American style options sold by the Fund may be exercised at any time before the option expiration date. The call options sold by the Fund are anticipated to be American style options. A number of factors may influence the option holder's decision to exercise the option, including the value of the underlying security or index, price volatility, currency exchange rates, dividend yield and interest rates. To the extent that these factors increase the value of the call option, the option holder is more likely to exercise the option, which may negatively affect the Fund. The effective use of options also depends on the Fund's ability to terminate option positions at times deemed desirable to do so. There is no assurance that the Fund will be able to effect closing transactions at any particular time or at an acceptable price. There may be times the Fund needs to sell securities at a loss in order to settle an option position, which could result in the distribution of premium from that option position being classified as a return of capital. Other times, the Fund may need to sell securities at a gain in order to settle an option position, which could result in the Fund being required to make additional distributions. Either result could cause an investor's returns to vary from expectations. When the Fund sells a call option on an index or an ETF, the call is "uncovered" (i.e., the Fund does not own the underlying security), therefore the potential losses on such call options are theoretically unlimited. Additionally, when the Fund sells a call option on an ETF, it may be required to acquire shares of the ETF in order to satisfy it's obligation on the call option, which could result in additional costs to the Fund. In addition, there may at times be an imperfect correlation between the movement in values of options and their reference index or security and there may at times not be a liquid secondary market for certain options. Options may also involve the use of leverage, which could result in greater price volatility than other markets.

CASH TRANSACTIONS RISK. The Fund intends to effect a portion of its creations and redemptions for cash rather than in-kind. As a result, an investment in the Fund may be less tax-efficient than an investment in an ETF that effects its creations and redemptions only in-kind. ETFs are able to make in-kind redemptions and avoid being taxed on gains on the distributed portfolio securities at the fund level. A Fund that effects redemptions for cash may be required to sell portfolio securities in order to obtain the cash needed to distribute redemption proceeds. Any recognized gain on these sales by the Fund will generally cause the Fund to recognize a gain it might not otherwise have recognized, or to recognize such gain sooner than would otherwise be required if it were to distribute portfolio securities only in-kind. The Fund intends to distribute these gains to shareholders to avoid being taxed on this gain at the fund level and otherwise comply with the special tax rules that apply to it. This strategy may cause shareholders to be subject to tax on gains they would not otherwise be subject to, or at an earlier

date than if they had made an investment in a different ETF. Moreover, cash transactions may have to be carried out over several days if the securities market is relatively illiquid and may involve considerable brokerage fees and taxes. These brokerage fees and taxes, which will be higher than if the Fund sold and redeemed its shares entirely in-kind, will be passed on to those purchasing and redeeming Creation Units in the form of creation and redemption transaction fees. In addition, these factors may result in wider spreads between the bid and the offered prices of the Fund's shares than for ETFs that distribute portfolio securities in-kind.

**COUNTERPARTY RISK.** Fund transactions involving a counterparty are subject to the risk that the counterparty will not fulfill its obligation to the Fund. 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 Fund.

**CURRENCY RISK.** The Fund may hold investments that are denominated in non-U.S. currencies, or in securities that provide exposure to such currencies, currency exchange rates or interest rates denominated in such currencies. Changes in currency exchange rates affect the value of investments denominated in a foreign currency, and therefore the value of such investments in the Fund's portfolio. The Fund's net asset value could decline if a currency to which the Fund has exposure depreciates against the U.S. dollar or if there are delays or limits on repatriation of such currency. Currency exchange rates can be very volatile and can change quickly and unpredictably. As a result, the value of an investment in the Fund may change quickly and without warning.

CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS RISK. Current market conditions risk is the risk that a particular investment, or shares of the Fund in general, may fall in value due to current market conditions. As a means to fight inflation, which remains at elevated levels, the Federal Reserve and certain foreign central banks have raised interest rates; however, the Federal Reserve has recently lowered interest rates and may continue to do so. U.S. regulators have proposed several changes to market and issuer regulations which would directly impact the Fund, and any regulatory changes could adversely impact the Fund's ability to achieve its investment strategies or make certain investments. Recent and potential future bank failures could result in disruption to the broader banking industry or markets generally and reduce confidence in financial institutions and the economy as a whole, which may also heighten market volatility and reduce liquidity. Additionally, challenges in commercial real estate markets, including rising interest rates, declining valuations and increasing vacancies, could have a broader impact on financial markets. The ongoing adversarial political climate in the United States, as well as political and diplomatic events both domestic and abroad, have and may continue to have an adverse impact the U.S. regulatory landscape, markets and investor behavior, which could have a negative impact on the Fund's investments and operations. The change in administration resulting from the 2024 United States national elections could result in significant impacts to international trade relations, tax and immigration policies, and other aspects of the national and international political and financial landscape, which could affect, among other things, inflation and the securities markets generally. Other unexpected political, regulatory and diplomatic events within the U.S. and abroad may affect investor and consumer confidence and may adversely impact financial markets and the broader economy. For example, ongoing armed conflicts between Russia and Ukraine in Europe and among Israel, Iran, Hamas and other militant groups in the Middle East, have caused and could continue to cause significant market disruptions and volatility within the markets in Russia, Europe, the Middle East and the United States. The hostilities and sanctions resulting from those hostilities have and could continue to have a significant impact on certain Fund investments as well as Fund performance and liquidity. The economies of the United States and its trading partners, as well as the financial markets generally, may be adversely impacted by trade disputes, including the imposition of tariffs, and other matters. For example, the United States has imposed trade barriers and restrictions on China. In addition, the Chinese government is engaged in a longstanding dispute with Taiwan, continually threatening an invasion. If the political climate between the United States and China does not improve or continues to deteriorate, if China were to attempt invading Taiwan, or if other geopolitical conflicts develop or worsen, economies, markets and individual securities may be adversely affected, and the value of the Fund's assets may go down. A public health crisis and the ensuing policies enacted by governments and central banks may cause significant volatility and uncertainty in global financial markets, negatively impacting global growth prospects. As the COVID-19 global pandemic illustrated, such events may affect certain geographic regions, countries, sectors and industries more significantly than others. Advancements in technology may also adversely impact markets and the overall performance of the Fund. For instance, the economy may be significantly impacted by the advanced development and increased regulation of artificial intelligence. Additionally, cyber security breaches of both government and non-government entities could have negative impacts on infrastructure and the ability of such entities, including the Fund, to operate properly. These events, and any other future events, may adversely affect the prices and liquidity of the Fund's portfolio investments and could result in disruptions in the trading markets.

**CYBER SECURITY RISK.** The Fund is susceptible to operational risks through breaches in cyber security. A breach in cyber security refers to both intentional and unintentional events that may cause the Fund to lose proprietary information, suffer

data corruption or lose operational capacity. Such events could cause the Fund to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs associated with corrective measures and/or financial loss. Cyber security breaches may involve unauthorized access to the Fund's digital information systems through "hacking" or malicious software coding but may also result from outside attacks such as denial-of-service attacks through efforts to make network services unavailable to intended users. In addition, cyber security breaches of the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests or the Fund's third-party service providers, such as its administrator, transfer agent, custodian, or sub-advisor, as applicable, can also subject the Fund to many of the same risks associated with direct cyber security breaches. Although the Fund has established risk management systems designed to reduce the risks associated with cyber security, there is no guarantee that such efforts will succeed, especially because the Fund does not directly control the cyber security systems of issuers or third-party service providers.

**DEPOSITARY RECEIPTS RISK.** Depositary receipts represent equity interests in a foreign company that trade on a local stock exchange. Depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market. Any distributions paid to the holders of depositary receipts are usually subject to a fee charged by the depositary. Holders of depositary receipts may have limited voting rights, and investment restrictions in certain countries may adversely impact the value of depositary receipts because such restrictions may limit the ability to convert the equity shares into depositary receipts and vice versa. Such restrictions may cause the equity shares of the underlying issuer to trade at a discount or premium to the market price of the depositary receipts.

**DERIVATIVES RISK.** The use of derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. These risks include or may include: (i) the risk that the value of the underlying assets may go up or down; (ii) the risk that the counterparty to a derivative transaction may not fulfill its contractual obligations; (iii) the risk of mispricing or improper valuation of a derivative; (iv) the risk that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset; (v) the risk that a derivative instrument cannot be sold, closed out or replaced quickly at or very close to its fundamental value; (vi) the risk of loss caused by the unenforceability of a party's obligations under the derivative; and (vii) the risk that a disruption in the financial markets will cause difficulties for all market participants. Derivative prices are highly volatile and may fluctuate substantially during a short period of time. Such prices are influenced by numerous factors that affect the markets, including, but not limited to: changing supply and demand relationships; government programs and policies; national and international political and economic events, changes in interest rates, inflation and deflation and changes in supply and demand relationships. Trading derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities. Derivative contracts ordinarily have leverage inherent in their terms. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it would not be advantageous to do so in order to satisfy its obligations or to meet regulatory or contractual requirements for derivatives. The use of leveraged derivatives can magnify potential for gain or loss and, therefore, amplify the effects of market volatility on share price.

**DISTRIBUTION TAX RISK.** The Fund currently expects to make distributions on a regular basis. While the Fund will normally pay its income as distributions, the Fund's distributions may exceed the Fund's income and gains for the Fund's taxable year. The Fund may be required to reduce its distributions if it has insufficient income. Additionally, there may be times the Fund needs to sell securities when it would not otherwise do so in order to settle an option position, which could result in the distribution of premium from that option position being classified as a return of capital. This occurs because while the distribution consisted of the premium received from the sale of the call option, the Fund later sold securities to generate proceeds to settle that call option. Distributions in excess of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits will be treated as a return of capital. Distributions in excess of the Fund's minimum distribution requirements, but not in excess of the Fund's earnings and profits, will be taxable to Fund shareholders and will not constitute nontaxable returns of capital. A return of capital distribution generally will not be taxable but will reduce the shareholder's cost basis and will result in a higher capital gain or lower capital loss when those Fund shares on which the distribution was received are sold. Once a Fund shareholder's cost basis is reduced to zero, further distributions will be treated as capital gain, if the Fund shareholder holds shares of the Fund as capital assets. Additionally, any capital returned through distributions will be distributed after payment of Fund fees and expenses. Because the Fund's distributions may consist of return of capital, the Fund may not be an appropriate investment for investors who do not want their principal investment in the Fund to decrease over time or who do not wish to receive return of capital in a given period. In the event that a shareholder purchases shares of the Fund shortly before a distribution by the Fund, the entire distribution may be taxable to the shareholder even though a portion of the distribution effectively represents a return of the purchase price.

**DIVIDENDS RISK.** The Fund's investment in dividend-paying securities could cause the Fund to underperform similar funds that invest without consideration of an issuer's track record of paying dividends. Companies that issue dividend-paying

securities are not required to continue to pay dividends on such securities. Therefore, there is the possibility that such companies could reduce or eliminate the payment of dividends in the future, which could negatively affect the Fund's performance.

**ENERGY COMPANIES RISK.** The Fund's investments will be concentrated (i.e., invest more than 25% of Fund assets) in any one industry or group of industries constituting the energy sector. A concentration makes the Fund more susceptible to any single occurrence within the energy sector and may subject the Fund to greater market risk than a fund that is more broadly diversified. The success of energy companies is cyclical and highly dependent on energy prices. The market value of securities issued by energy companies may decline for many reasons, including, among other things, changes in the levels and volatility of global energy prices, changes in international politics, policies of Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), energy supply and demand, capital expenditures on exploration and production of energy sources, exchange rates, interest rates, economic conditions, tax treatment, energy conservation efforts, increased competition and technological advances. Energy companies may be subject to substantial government regulation and contractual fixed pricing, which may increase the cost of doing business and limit the earnings of these companies. A significant portion of the revenues of energy companies may depend on a relatively small number of customers, including governmental entities and utilities. As a result, governmental budget constraints may have a material adverse effect on the stock prices of energy companies. Governmental regulation may affect the profitability of these companies. Energy companies may also operate in, or engage in transactions involving, countries with less developed regulatory regimes or a history of expropriation, nationalization or other adverse policies. Energy companies also face a significant risk of liability from accidents resulting in injury or loss of life or property, pollution or other environmental problems, equipment malfunctions or mishandling of materials and a risk of loss from terrorism, political strife or natural disasters.

ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE COMPANIES RISK. Energy infrastructure companies, including MLPs and utility companies, are subject to risks specific to the energy and energy-related industries. This includes but is not limited to: fluctuations in commodity prices impacting the volume of energy commodities transported, processed, stored or distributed; reductions in volumes of natural gas or other energy commodities being available for transporting, processing, storing or distributing; slowdowns in new construction and acquisitions limiting growth potential; reduced demand for oil, natural gas and petroleum products, particularly for a sustained period of time; depletion of natural gas reserves or other commodities; rising interest rates resulting in higher costs of capital, increased operating costs; and an inability to execute acquisitions or expansion projects in a cost-effective manner; counterparties to contracts defaulting or going bankrupt; extreme weather events and environmental hazards; and threats of attack by terrorists on energy assets. Energy infrastructure companies may also face counterparty risk, such that long-term contracts may be declared void if the counterparty to those contracts enters bankruptcy proceedings. In addition, energy infrastructure companies are subject to significant federal, state and local government regulation in virtually every aspect of their operations, including how facilities are constructed, maintained and operated, environmental and safety controls, and the prices they may charge for products and services. Energy infrastructure companies that own interstate pipelines are subject to regulation by U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") with respect to the tariff rates they may charge for transportation services. An adverse determination by FERC with respect to the tariff rates of such a company could have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows and its ability to pay cash distributions or dividends. Various governmental authorities have the power to enforce compliance with these regulations and the permits issued under them and violators are subject to administrative, civil and criminal penalties, including civil fines, injunctions or both. Stricter laws, regulations or enforcement policies could be enacted in the future which would likely increase compliance costs and may adversely affect the financial performance of energy infrastructure companies. Natural disasters, such as hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico, also may impact the energy infrastructure companies.

Certain energy infrastructure companies in the utility sector are subject to the imposition of rate caps, increased competition due to deregulation, the difficulty in obtaining an adequate return on invested capital or in financing large construction projects, the limitations on operations and increased costs and delays attributable to environmental considerations, and the capital market's ability to absorb utility debt. In addition, taxes, government regulation, international politics, price and supply fluctuations, volatile interest rates and energy conservation may cause difficulties for these companies. Such issuers have been experiencing certain of these problems in varying degrees.

Certain energy infrastructure companies are involved in the production of electrical equipment and components. General risks of these companies include the general state of the economy, exchange rates, commodity prices, intense competition, consolidation, domestic and international politics, government regulation, import controls, excess capacity, consumer demand and spending trends. In addition, the companies may also be significantly affected by overall capital spending levels, economic cycles, rapid technological changes, delays in modernization, labor relations, environmental liabilities, governmental and product liability and e-commerce initiatives.

Certain energy infrastructure companies engage in renewable and alternative energy activities. These companies can be significantly affected by obsolescence of existing technology, short product cycles, legislation resulting in more strict government regulations and enforcement policies, limited resources, fluctuations in energy prices, including the supply of and demand for renewable and alternative energy sources, and supply and demand of alternative energy fuels and energy conservation.

**EQUITY SECURITIES RISK.** The value of the Fund's shares will fluctuate with changes in the value of the equity securities in which it invests. Equity securities prices fluctuate for several reasons, including changes in investors' perceptions of the financial condition of an issuer or the general condition of the relevant equity market, such as market volatility, or when political or economic events affecting an issuer occur. Common stock prices may be particularly sensitive to rising interest rates, as the cost of capital rises and borrowing costs increase. Equity securities may decline significantly in price over short or extended periods of time, and such declines may occur in the equity market as a whole, or they may occur in only a particular country, company, industry or sector of the market.

**INDEX OR MODEL CONSTITUENT RISK.** The Fund may be a constituent of one or more indices or ETF models. As a result, the Fund may be included in one or more index-tracking exchange-traded funds or mutual funds. Being a component security of such a vehicle could greatly affect the trading activity involving the Fund's shares, the size of the Fund and the market volatility of the Fund. Inclusion in an index could increase demand for the Fund and removal from an index could result in outsized selling activity in a relatively short period of time. As a result, the Fund's net asset value could be negatively impacted and the Fund's market price may be below the Fund's net asset value during certain periods. In addition, index rebalances may potentially result in increased trading activity in the Fund's shares.

**INFLATION RISK.** Inflation risk is the risk that the value of assets or income from investments will be less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the present value of the Fund's assets and distributions may decline.

**LARGE CAPITALIZATION COMPANIES RISK.** Large capitalization companies may grow at a slower rate and be less able to adapt to changing market conditions than smaller capitalization companies. Thus, the return on investment in securities of large capitalization companies may be less than the return on investment in securities of small and/or mid capitalization companies. The performance of large capitalization companies also tends to trail the overall market during different market cycles.

**LEVERAGE RISK.** Leverage may result in losses that exceed the amount originally invested and may accelerate the rates of losses. Leverage tends to magnify, sometimes significantly, the effect of any increase or decrease in the Fund's exposure to an asset or class of assets and may cause the value of the Fund's's shares to be volatile and sensitive to market swings.

**LIQUIDITY RISK.** Certain Fund investments may trade in limited volume, or lack an active trading market. Accordingly, the Fund may not be able to sell or close out of such investments at favorable times or prices (or at all), or at the prices approximating those at which the Fund currently values them. Illiquid securities may trade at a discount from comparable, more liquid investments and may be subject to wide fluctuations in market value.

**MANAGEMENT RISK.** The Fund is subject to management risk because it is an actively managed portfolio. In managing the Fund's investment portfolio, the portfolio managers will apply investment techniques and risk analyses that may not produce the desired result. There can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective.

MARKET MAKER RISK. The Fund faces numerous market trading risks, including the potential lack of an active market for Fund shares due to a limited number of market markers. Decisions by market makers or authorized participants to reduce their role or step away from these activities in times of market stress could inhibit the effectiveness of the arbitrage process in maintaining the relationship between the underlying values of the Fund's portfolio securities and the Fund's market price. The Fund may rely on a small number of third-party market makers to provide a market for the purchase and sale of shares. Any trading halt or other problem relating to the trading activity of these market makers could result in a dramatic change in the spread between the Fund's net asset value and the price at which the Fund's shares are trading on the Exchange, which could result in a decrease in value of the Fund's shares. This reduced effectiveness could result in Fund shares trading at a discount to net asset value and also in greater than normal intraday bid-ask spreads for Fund shares.

**MARKET RISK**. Market risk is the risk that a particular investment, or shares of the Fund in general, may fall in value. Securities are subject to market fluctuations caused by real or perceived adverse economic, political, and regulatory factors or market developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in securities prices. Shares of the Fund could decline in value or underperform other investments. In addition, local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, market

manipulation, government defaults, government shutdowns, regulatory actions, political changes, diplomatic developments, the imposition of sanctions and other similar measures, spread of infectious diseases or other public health issues, recessions, natural disasters, or other events could have a significant negative impact on the Fund and its investments. Any of such circumstances could have a materially negative impact on the value of the Fund's shares, the liquidity of an investment, and may result in increased market volatility. During any such events, the Fund's shares may trade at increased premiums or discounts to their net asset value, the bid/ask spread on the Fund's shares may widen and the returns on investment may fluctuate.

MLP RISK. Investments in securities of MLPs involve certain risks different from or in addition to the risks of investing in common stocks. MLP common units can be affected by macro-economic factors and other factors unique to the partnership or company and the industry or industries in which the MLP operates. Certain MLP securities may trade in relatively low volumes due to their smaller capitalizations or other factors, which may cause them to have a high degree of price volatility and illiquidity. The structures of MLPs create certain risks, including, for example, risks related to the limited ability of investors to control an MLP and to vote on matters affecting the MLP, risks related to potential conflicts of interest between an MLP and the MLP's general partner, the risk that an MLP will generate insufficient cash flow to meet its current operating requirements, the risk that an MLP will issue additional securities or engage in other transactions that will have the effect of diluting the interests of existing investors, and risks related to the general partner's right to require unit-holders to sell their common units at an undesirable time or price.

MLP TAX RISK. The Fund's ability to meet its investment objective relies in part upon the level of taxable income it receives from the MLPs in which it invests, a factor over which the Fund has no control. The benefit the Fund derives from its investment in MLPs is largely dependent on their being treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Partnerships do not pay U.S. federal income tax at the partnership level. Rather, each partner is allocated a share of the partnership's income, gains, losses, deductions and expenses. A change in current tax law or a change in the underlying business mix of a given MLP could result in an MLP being treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, which would result in the MLP being required to pay U.S. federal income tax (as well as state and local income taxes) on its taxable income at the applicable corporate tax rate. This would have the effect of reducing the amount of cash available for distribution by an MLP and could result in a significant reduction in the value of the Fund's investment. The classification of an MLP as a corporation for U. S. federal income tax purposes would have the effect of reducing the amount of cash available for distribution by the MLP and causing any such distributions received by the Fund to be taxed as dividend income to the extent of the MLP's current or accumulated earnings and profits. To the extent a distribution received by the Fund from an MLP is treated as a return of capital, the Fund's adjusted tax basis in the interests of the MLP may be reduced, which will result in an increase in the amount of income or gain (or decrease in the amount of loss) that will be recognized by the Fund for tax purposes upon the sale of any such interests or upon subsequent distributions in respect of such interests. Furthermore, any return of capital distribution received from an MLP may require the Fund to restate the character of its distributions and amend any shareholder tax reporting previously issued. See "Deferred Tax Liability Risk."

**NON-DIVERSIFICATION RISK.** The Fund is classified as "non-diversified" under the Investment Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). As a result, the Fund is only limited as to the percentage of its assets which may be invested in the securities of any one issuer by the diversification requirements imposed by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a limited number of issuers. As a result, the Fund may be more susceptible to a single adverse economic or regulatory occurrence affecting one or more of these issuers, experience increased volatility and be highly invested in certain issuers.

**NON-U.S. SECURITIES RISK.** Non-U.S. securities are subject to higher volatility than securities of domestic issuers due to possible adverse political, social or economic developments, restrictions on foreign investment or exchange of securities, capital controls, lack of liquidity, currency exchange rates, excessive taxation, government seizure of assets, the imposition of sanctions by foreign governments, different legal or accounting standards, and less government supervision and regulation of securities exchanges in foreign countries.

**OPERATIONAL RISK.** The Fund is subject to risks arising from various operational factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or systems failures. The Fund relies on third-parties for a range of services, including custody. Any delay or failure relating to engaging or maintaining such service providers may affect the Fund's ability to meet its investment objective. Although the Fund and the Fund's investment advisor seek to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures, there is no way to completely protect against such risks.

**OPTIONS RISK.** The use of options involves investment strategies and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. The prices of options are volatile and are influenced by, among other things, actual and anticipated changes in the value of the underlying instrument, or in interest or currency exchange rates, including the anticipated volatility, which in turn are affected by fiscal and monetary policies and by national and international political and economic events. The effective use of options also depends on the Fund's ability to terminate option positions at times deemed desirable to do so. There is no assurance that the Fund will be able to effect closing transactions at any particular time or at an acceptable price. In addition, there may at times be an imperfect correlation between the movement in values of options and their underlying securities and there may at times not be a liquid secondary market for certain options. There may be times the Fund needs to sell securities at a loss in order to settle an option position, which could result in the distribution of premium from that option position being classified as a return of capital. Other times, the Fund may need to sell securities at a gain in order to settle an option position, which could result in the Fund being required to make additional distributions. Either result could cause an investor's returns to vary from expectations.

**PORTFOLIO CORRELATION RISK.** The Fund's portfolio is composed of both equity securities and written call options. Because some of the options are written on indexes and/or ETFs instead of the equity securities held by the Fund, the Fund's investments may not be fully correlated, meaning their performance is independent of one another. Market events may impact one position held by the Fund more than the other position and the returns from the Fund's investments in equity securities and written call options may not move in the same direction as one another.

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER RISK.** High portfolio turnover may result in the Fund paying higher levels of transaction costs and may generate greater tax liabilities for shareholders. Portfolio turnover risk may cause the Fund's performance to be less than expected.

**PREMIUM/DISCOUNT RISK**. The market price of the Fund's shares will generally fluctuate in accordance with changes in the Fund's net asset value as well as the relative supply of and demand for shares on the Exchange. The Fund's investment advisor cannot predict whether shares will trade below, at or above their net asset value because the shares trade on the Exchange at market prices and not at net asset value. Price differences may be due, in large part, to the fact that supply and demand forces at work in the secondary trading market for shares will be closely related, but not identical, to the same forces influencing the prices of the holdings of the Fund trading individually or in the aggregate at any point in time. However, given that shares can only be purchased and redeemed in Creation Units, and only to and from broker-dealers and large institutional investors that have entered into participation agreements (unlike shares of closed-end funds, which frequently trade at appreciable discounts from, and sometimes at premiums to, their net asset value), the Fund's investment advisor believes that large discounts or premiums to the net asset value of shares should not be sustained. During stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the market for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings, which could in turn lead to differences between the market price of the Fund's shares and their net asset value and the bid/ask spread on the Fund's shares may widen.

**REORGANIZATION TAX RISK.** Because of the Fund's involvement in reorganizations of closed-end funds that had elected to be treated as C corporations for U.S. federal income tax purposes ("C Corps"), it is subject to potential additional tax consequences. As a result of such reorganizations, the Fund may need to make distributions during its first taxable year attributable to C Corp earnings and profits, which would be treated as ordinary dividends. Depending on an investor's particular situation, the dividends may be qualified dividends eligible for a capital gains rate or the dividends received deduction if the investor is a corporation. Additionally, to the extent the ultimate nature of the tax position of any MLPs held by the closed-end funds prior to the reorganizations could not be known at the time of the reorganizations (due to the timing of the release of the MLPs' Schedule K-1s), it is likely that adjustments ("true-ups") will need to be made to the C Corp closed-end fund net asset values that had been estimated for purposes of the reorganizations, potentially resulting in additional and, depending on market conditions, potentially significant tax liabilities that would be borne by the Fund (as opposed to by the respective C Corp closed-end funds had such information been available prior to the reorganizations). Furthermore, such true-ups could necessitate additional taxable distributions or otherwise result in the payment of excise tax by the Fund. Shareholders of the Fund are subject to the foregoing risks and costs regardless of whether they had been a shareholder of a closed-end fund involved in a reorganization.

**SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE RISK.** To the extent that the Fund invests a significant percentage of its assets in a single asset class or the securities of issuers within the same country, state, region, industry or sector, an adverse economic, business or political development may affect the value of the Fund's investments more than if the Fund were more broadly diversified. A significant exposure makes the Fund more susceptible to any single occurrence and may subject the Fund to greater market risk than a fund that is more broadly diversified.

**SMALLER COMPANIES RISK.** Small and/or mid capitalization companies may be more vulnerable to adverse general market or economic developments, and their securities may be less liquid and may experience greater price volatility than larger, more established companies as a result of several factors, including limited trading volumes, fewer products or financial resources, management inexperience and less publicly available information. Accordingly, such companies are generally subject to greater market risk than larger, more established companies.

**TAX RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH INVESTMENT IN OPTIONS.** The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in options on indexes. The treatment of such derivatives may, in part, be based upon informal guidance issued by the Internal Revenue Service a number of years ago. Although the Fund believes that the Fund is treating such derivatives consistently with current tax law, if the Internal Revenue Service were to disagree, the Fund could lose its status as a RIC. The Fund may also invest a portion of its assets in certain options on an Underlying ETF that may not qualify as "Section 1256 contracts" under Section 1256 of the Code, and disposition of such options will likely result in short-term or long-term capital gains or losses.

If the Fund did not qualify as a RIC for any taxable year and certain relief provisions were not available, the Fund's taxable income would be subject to tax at the Fund level and to a further tax at the Shareholder level when such income is distributed. In such event, in order to re-qualify for taxation as a RIC, the Fund might be required to recognize unrealized gains, pay substantial taxes and interest and make certain distributions. This would cause investors to incur higher tax liabilities than they otherwise would have incurred and would have a negative impact on Fund returns. In such event, the Fund's Board of Trustees may determine to reorganize or close the Fund or materially change the Fund's investment objective and strategies. In the event that the Fund fails to qualify as a RIC, the Fund will promptly notify Shareholders of the implications of that failure.

The Fund has sold call Options that reference property that may vary in value similarly to the property held by the Fund. If the property held and the Options sold are determined to be straddles (offsetting positions), the amount of long-term capital gain available for distribution as a capital gain dividend may be reduced. Because of the loss of long-term capital gains from portfolio investments, in some factual circumstances investors could have a lower after-tax return from investing in the trust than investing directly in the referenced asset.

The Fund may be required to mark some of its positions to market on an annual basis. The sold call options are exchange traded options. Under the Code, certain types of options are required to be treated as if they were sold at the end of each year. Such treatment could cause the Fund to have taxable income without receiving cash. In order to maintain its RIC qualification, the Fund must distribute at least 90% of its income annually. Depending upon the circumstances, some assets may need to be sold to fund the required distributions. This process of recognizing deemed income and selling assets to fund distributions may accelerate the time at which Shareholders receive cash but may reduce the overall return on funds employed.

**TRADING ISSUES RISK.** Trading in Fund shares on the Exchange may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Fund shares on the Exchange is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to the Exchange's "circuit breaker" rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of the Exchange necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged. The Fund may have difficulty maintaining its listing on the Exchange in the event the Fund's assets are small, the Fund does not have enough shareholders, or if the Fund is unable to proceed with creation and/or redemption orders.

**UTILITY COMPANIES RISK.** Utility companies include companies producing or providing gas, electricity or water. These companies are subject to the risk of the imposition of rate caps, increased competition due to deregulation, the difficulty in obtaining an adequate return on invested capital or in financing large construction projects counterparty risk, the limitations on operations and increased costs and delays attributable to environmental considerations and the capital market's ability to absorb utility debt. In addition, taxes, government regulation, domestic and international politics, price and supply fluctuations, volatile interest rates and energy conservation may negatively affect utility companies.

**VALUATION RISK.** The Fund may hold securities or other assets that may be valued on the basis of factors other than market quotations. This may occur because the asset or security does not trade on a centralized exchange, or in times of market turmoil or reduced liquidity. There are multiple methods that can be used to value a portfolio holding when market quotations are not readily available. The value established for any portfolio holding at a point in time might differ from what would be produced using a different methodology or if it had been priced using market quotations. Portfolio holdings that are valued using techniques other than market quotations, including "fair valued" assets or securities, may be subject to greater fluctuation in their valuations from one day to the next than if market quotations were used. In addition, there is no assurance that the Fund could sell or close out a portfolio position for the value established for it at any time, and it is possible that the Fund would incur a loss because a portfolio position is sold or closed out at a discount to the valuation established by the Fund at

that time. The Fund's ability to value investments may be impacted by technological issues or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.

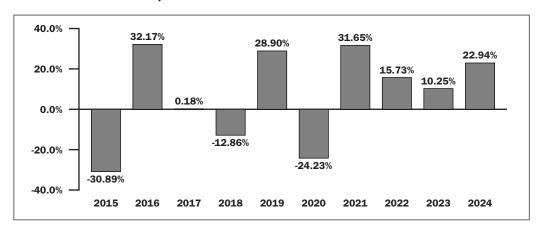
### **Annual Total Return**

On February 29, 2024, the shareholders of First Trust Energy Income and Growth Fund, First Trust MLP and Energy Income Fund, First Trust New Opportunities MLP & Energy Fund and First Trust Energy Infrastructure Fund, each a Massachusetts business trust that is registered as a closed-end management investment company (the "Target Funds"), approved an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the "Plan") by and between the Target Funds, and the Trust, on behalf of the Fund, pursuant to which the Target Funds would (i) transfer all of their assets to the Fund in exchange solely for newly issued shares of the Fund and the Fund's assumption of all of the liabilities of the Target Funds, and (ii) immediately distribute such newly issued shares of the Fund to shareholders of the Target Funds (the "Mergers").

As a result of the Mergers, the Fund has assumed the performance history of First Trust Energy Infrastructure Fund (the "Predecessor Fund"). As the Predecessor Fund and Fund have a number of differences, including investment policies and practices and that the Predecessor Fund is a closed-end fund which utilizes leverage while the Fund is an exchange-traded fund which does not utilize leverage, the Predecessor Fund's past performance is not indicative of how the Fund will, or is expected to, perform in the future. Accordingly, any Fund performance and historical returns shown below that incorporates Predecessor Fund performance prior to May 6, 2024 is not indicative of the performance that the Fund would have generated.

The bar chart and table below illustrate the annual calendar year returns of the Fund (having assumed the performance of the Predecessor Fund) based on net asset value as well as the average annual Fund returns. The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing changes in the Fund's performance (having assumed the performance of the Predecessor Fund) from year-to-year and by showing how the Fund's average annual total returns based on net asset value compared to those of a broad-based market index, a blended benchmark and three market indices. The Fund's performance information is accessible on the Fund's website at http://www.ftportfolios.com.

# FT Energy Income Partners Enhanced Income ETF Calendar Year Total Returns as of 12/31



During the periods shown in the chart above:

|               | Return  | Period Ended   |
|---------------|---------|----------------|
| Best Quarter  | 20.91%  | June 30, 2020  |
| Worst Quarter | -42.42% | March 31, 2020 |
|               |         |                |

The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future.

All after-tax returns are calculated using the historical highest individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of any state or local tax. Returns after taxes on distributions reflect the taxed return on the payment of dividends and capital gains. Returns after taxes on distributions and sale of shares assume you sold your shares at period end, and, therefore, are also adjusted for any capital gains or losses incurred. Returns for an index do not include expenses, which are deducted from Fund returns, or taxes.

Your own actual after-tax returns will depend on your specific tax situation and may differ from what is shown here. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold Fund shares in tax-deferred accounts such as individual retirement accounts (IRAs) or employee-sponsored retirement plans.

# Average Annual Total Returns for the Periods Ended December 31, 2024

|  | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years | Since<br>Inception | Inception<br>Date |
|--|--------|---------|----------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Return Before Taxes <sup>(1)</sup>   | 22.94% | 9.37%   | 4.87%    | 9.14%              | 9/27/2011         |
| Return After Taxes On Distributions <sup>(1)</sup>                                 | 18.28% | 6.19%   | 1.66%    | 5.69%              |                   |
| Return After Taxes on Distributions and Sale of Fund Shares <sup>(1)</sup>         | 13.35% | 5.61%   | 2.00%    | 5.56%              |                   |
| S&P Global 1200 Energy Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)   | 2.51%  | 9.55%   | 5.05%    | 5.27%              |                   |
| PHLX Utility Sector Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)      | 20.88% | 6.07%   | 8.14%    | 9.52%              |                   |
| Alerian MLP Total Return Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 24.41% | 15.56%  | 3.67%    | 6.43%              |                   |
| Blended Index <sup>(2)</sup> (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)   | 23.41% | 12.84%  | 7.24%    | 9.09%              |                   |
| S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)                 | 25.02% | 14.53%  | 13.10%   | 15.08%             |                   |

<sup>(1)</sup> Total return is based on the combination of reinvested dividend, capital gain, and return of capital distributions, if any, at prices obtained by the Predecessor Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan and changes in NAV per share for NAV returns and changes in Common Share Price for market value returns. Total returns do not reflect sales load and are not annualized for periods of less than one year. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

# Management

### **Investment Advisor**

First Trust Advisors L.P. ("First Trust" or the "Advisor")

### **Investment Sub-Advisor**

Energy Income Partners, LLC ("Energy Income Partners" or the "Sub-Advisor")

#### **Portfolio Managers**

The following persons serve as portfolio managers of the Fund:

- James J. Murchie, Co-Founder, Chief Executive Officer, Co-Portfolio Manager and Principal of Energy Income Partners
- Eva Pao, Co-Founder, Co-Portfolio Manager and Principal of Energy Income Partners
- John K. Tysseland, Co-Portfolio Manager and Principal of Energy Income Partners

The portfolio managers are primarily and jointly responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Each portfolio manager has served as a part of the portfolio management team of the Fund since May 2024. The portfolio managers served as part of the portfolio management team of the four closed-end funds subject to the Mergers from their inception until the Mergers.

<sup>(2)</sup> The Blended Index consists of the following: PHLX Utility Sector Index (50%) and Alerian MLP Total Return Index (50%). The Blended Index reflects the diverse allocation of companies engaged in the energy infrastructure sector in the Fund's portfolio. The indices do not charge management fees or brokerage expenses, and no such fees or expenses were deducted from the performance shown. Indexes are unmanaged and an investor cannot invest directly in an index. The Blended Index returns are calculated by using the monthly return of the two indices during each period shown above. At the beginning of each month the two indices are rebalanced to a 50-50 ratio to account for divergence from that ratio that occurred during the course of each month. The monthly returns are then compounded for each period shown above, giving the performance for the Blended Index for each period shown above.

#### **Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares**

The Fund issues and redeems shares on a continuous basis, at net asset value, only in large blocks of shares called "Creation Units." Individual shares of the Fund may only be purchased and sold on the secondary market through a broker-dealer. Since shares of the Fund trade on securities exchanges in the secondary market at their market price rather than their net asset value, the Fund's shares may trade at a price greater than (premium) or less than (discount) the Fund's net asset value. An investor may incur costs attributable to the difference between the highest price a buyer is willing to pay to purchase shares of the Fund (bid) and the lowest price a seller is willing to accept for shares of the Fund (ask) when buying or selling shares in the secondary market (the "bid-ask spread"). Recent information, including the Fund's net asset value, market price, premiums and discounts, bid-ask spreads and the median bid-ask spread for the Fund's most recent fiscal year, is available online at http://www.ftportfolios.com/Retail/etf/home.aspx.

### **Tax Information**

The Fund's distributions are taxable and will generally be taxed as ordinary income or capital gains. Distributions on shares held in a tax-deferred account, while not immediately taxable, will be subject to tax when the shares are no longer held in a tax-deferred account.

# **Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries**

If you purchase shares of the Fund through a broker-dealer, registered investment adviser, bank or other financial intermediary (collectively, "intermediaries"), First Trust and First Trust Portfolios L.P., the Fund's distributor, may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your salesperson to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

# Additional Information on the Fund's Investment Objective and Strategies

The Fund is a series of First Trust Exchange-Traded Fund VIII and is regulated as an "investment company" under the 1940 Act. The Fund is actively managed and does not seek to track the performance of an index. The Fund's investment objective to seek a high level of total return with an emphasis on current distributions paid to shareholders is fundamental and may not be changed without approval by the holders of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund. Unless an investment policy is identified as being fundamental, all investment policies included in this prospectus and the Fund's Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") are non-fundamental and may be changed by the Board of Trustees of the Trust (the "Board") without shareholder approval. If there is a material change to the Fund's principal investment strategies, you should consider whether the Fund remains an appropriate investment for you. There is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

The Fund has adopted a non-fundamental investment policy pursuant to Rule 35d-1 under the 1940 Act (the "Name Policy"), whereby the Fund, under normal market conditions, will invest at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in securities and/or investments that provide exposure to Energy Companies (as defined above). As a result, the Fund must provide shareholders with a notice meeting the requirements of Rule 35d-1(c) at least 60 days prior to any change of the Fund's Name Policy.

### Additional Information on the Fund's Strategies

Under normal market conditions, the Fund will pursue its investment objective by investing primarily in a portfolio of equity securities in the broader energy market ("Energy Companies"). Under normal market conditions, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in securities and/or investments that provide exposure to Energy Companies.

Energy Companies include companies in the Global Industry Classification Standard ("GICS") energy sector, companies in the GICS utility sector (excluding water utilities), or companies in any other GICS sectors that derive at least 50% of their revenues or profits from exploration, development, production, gathering, transportation, processing, storing, refining, distribution, mining or marketing, of natural gas, natural gas liquids (including propane), crude oil, refined petroleum products, petrochemicals, electricity, coal, uranium, hydrogen or other energy sources, renewable energy production, renewable energy equipment, energy storage, carbon, carbon dioxide and fugitive methane mitigation and management, as well as electric transmission, distribution, storage and system reliability support (collectively, "energy-related activities"). Energy Companies also include companies providing engineering, consulting and construction services that derive at least 50% of their revenues or profits from energy-related activities, all of which are selected by Energy Income Partners, LLC, the Fund's investment sub-advisor ("Energy Income Partners" or the "Sub-Advisor"). These companies may include publicly-traded master limited partnerships or limited liability companies taxed as partnerships ("MLPs") and MLP affiliates.

The Fund's portfolio will be selected based upon the Sub-Advisor's belief that a professionally managed portfolio of Energy Companies offers an attractive balance of income and growth through a combination of dividends and capital appreciation. The Sub-Advisor believes that rapid changes to the energy system driven by innovations like oil and gas completions technologies, renewable energy and energy storage as well as government policies relating to the energy system's emissions, safety, reliability, resilience and national security have created a wider range of and more diversified opportunities in the energy sector than in the past.

In selecting the Fund's portfolio, the Sub-Advisor focuses primarily on a company's yield, growth, and valuation. In evaluating yield, the Sub-Advisor seeks companies with stable cash flows and higher-than-average dividend payout ratios or companies with cyclical cash flows that have lower and more sustainable dividend payout ratios. In evaluating growth, the Sub-Advisor focuses on increasing per share earnings and cash flow, with a belief that free cash flow can drive reinvestment or share repurchase, each of which can drive per share growth. Finally, in evaluating a company's valuation, the Sub-Advisor seeks companies that have the potential to experience positive changes in value, where business restructuring, changes in management or asset mix, or changes in government policy may positively impact investor perception about a company's future. Through the analysis described above, and use of rigorous investment research and analytical tools applied to stock selection and portfolio construction, the Sub-Advisor selects companies for the Fund's portfolio that it believes have the best potential to achieve the Fund's investment objective. The Fund may invest in U.S. and non-U.S. companies, including depositary receipts and investments that are denominated in U.S. or non-U.S. currencies, with various market capitalizations.

As determined by the Sub-Advisor, the Fund will also enhance the Fund's income paying capacity by selling call options on a portion of the value of the Fund. Income is received by an investor who sells an option contract to another party. The option

strategy will consist of writing "covered" calls and writing calls on energy indexes and/or ETFs with a correlation to the equity securities held by the Fund. The covered call option portion of the strategy is "covered" because the Fund owns the equity security underlying the call option. When the Fund sells a covered call option, the Fund has the obligation to sell the equity security at a specified price (the "strike price"), or deliver a cash payment equal to any positive difference between the value of the equity security when the option is exercised and the strike price. In the event the equity security appreciates above the strike price and the purchaser exercises the written option, the Fund as the writer (seller) of the call option will have to either sell the equity security at the strike price or pay the difference between the value of the equity security and the strike price (which loss is offset by the premium initially received). In the event the equity security declines in value, the call option may end up worthless and the Fund as the writer (seller) of the call option retains the premium. In addition to writing covered calls on individual securities, the Fund will also write calls on energy indexes and/or ETFs. When the Fund sells a call option on an index or an ETF, the call is "uncovered" (i.e., the Fund does not own the underlying security), therefore the potential losses on such call options are theoretically unlimited. Additionally, when the Fund sells a call option on an ETF, it may be required to acquire shares of the ETF in order to satisfy it's obligation on the call option, which could result in additional costs to the Fund.

By combining premiums collected from the sale of calls with the dividend income of the equity securities, the Fund seeks to increase total income for investors while still participating in the growth potential from the price appreciation of the stocks held by the Fund. The call options written by the Fund will generally have expirations of between one month and three months. Generally, the Fund will write (sell) call options on approximately 25-75% of the net asset value of the Fund but maintains flexibility to increase this depending on the amount needed to maintain an attractive level of current distributions. The call options written by the Fund will be typically written out-of-the-money, but the Fund may also utilize at-the-money call options. An out-of-the-money call option has a strike price that is greater than the price of the equity security at the time the call option is sold. An at-the-money call option has a strike price that is approximately equal to the price of the equity security at the time the call option is sold. The Fund's strategy may involve frequently buying and selling portfolio securities. The Sub-Advisor may remove securities from the portfolio when such securities, in the opinion of the Sub-Advisor, are no longer appropriate for seeking to meet the Fund's investment objective.

The Fund's investments will be concentrated (i.e., invest more than 25% of Fund assets) in any one industry or group of industries constituting the energy sector.

The Fund is classified as "non-diversified" under the 1940 Act.

While it is not expected that the Fund will invest in the securities of other investment companies, any such investments would be subject to limitations imposed by the 1940 Act and the related rules and interpretations. The Fund has adopted a policy that it will not invest in other investment companies in excess of 1940 Act limits in reliance on Sections 12(d)(1)(F) or 12(d)(1)(G) of the 1940 Act.

### **Fund Investments**

# **Principal Investments**

### **Equity Securities**

Equity securities include common stocks; preferred securities; warrants to purchase common stocks or preferred securities; securities convertible into common stocks or preferred securities; master limited partnership ("MLP") units discussed below and other securities with equity characteristics.

### **Options Contracts**

The Fund sells (writes) options contracts. An option represents a contract sold by one party (the option writer) to another party (the option holder). For an index call option, the buyer has the right to receive from the seller a cash payment at the option expiration date equal to any positive difference between the value of the index at the contract expiration and exercise price. For a call option on an equity security, the buyer has the right to purchase shares of the equity security at the strike price. The buyer of a call option makes a cash payment (premium) to the seller of the option upon entering into the option contract

A call option on securities written by the Fund would obligate the Fund to sell specified securities to the holder of the option at a specified price if the option is exercised at any time before the expiration date. A call option is "covered" if the Fund owns

the equity security underlying the call option. Writing covered call options may deprive the Fund of the opportunity to fully profit from an increase in the market price of the securities in its portfolio. Options on securities indices are similar to options on securities, except that the exercise of securities index options requires cash settlement payments and does not involve the actual purchase or sale of securities. A call option on an index or an ETF is "uncovered" when the Fund does not own the underlying security. In such case, the potential losses on uncovered call options are theoretically unlimited. The Fund may cover call options on a securities index by owning securities whose price changes are expected to be similar to those of the securities index.

To the extent the Fund enters into derivatives transactions, it will do so pursuant to Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act. Rule 18f-4 requires the Fund to implement certain policies and procedures designed to manage its derivatives risks, dependent upon the Fund's level of exposure to derivative instruments.

### **Derivatives**

The Fund may invest in bond index and equity index futures, options, futures, forward contracts, swaps and other derivative instruments to seek to enhance return, to hedge some of the risks of its investments in securities, as a substitute for a position in the underlying asset, to reduce transaction costs, to maintain full market exposure (which means to adjust the characteristics of its investments to more closely approximate those of the markets in which it invests), to manage cash flows, to limit exposure to losses due to changes to non U.S. currency exchange rates, to preserve capital or as a temporary defensive position during periods of non-normal market conditions.

# **Master Limited Partnerships**

The Fund may invest in equity securities of MLPs without limit, however, in order to comply with applicable tax diversification rules, the Fund may have to limit the percentage of its net assets invested in MLPs on a periodic basis.

MLPs are limited partnerships whose shares (or units) are listed and traded on a U.S. securities exchange, just like common stock. To qualify as an MLP, a partnership must receive at least 90% of its income from qualifying sources such as natural resource activities. Natural resource activities include the exploration, development, mining, production, processing, refining, transportation, storage and marketing of mineral or natural resources. MLPs generally have two classes of owners, the general partner and limited partners. The general partner, which is generally a major energy company, investment fund or the management of the MLP, typically controls the MLP through a 2% general partner equity interest in the MLP plus common units and subordinated units. Limited partners own the remainder of the partnership, through ownership of common units, and have a limited role in the partnership's operations and management.

MLPs are typically structured such that common units have first priority to receive quarterly cash distributions up to an established minimum quarterly dividend ("MQD"). Common units also accrue arrearages in distributions to the extent the MQD is not paid. Once common units have been paid, subordinated units receive distributions of up to the MQD, but subordinated units do not accrue arrearages. Distributable cash in excess of the MQD paid to both common and subordinated units is distributed to both common and subordinated units generally on a pro rata basis. The general partner is also eligible to receive incentive distributions if the general partner operates the business in a manner which maximizes value to unit holders. As the general partner increases cash distributions to the limited partners, the general partner receives an increasingly higher percentage of the incremental cash distributions. A common arrangement provides that the general partner can reach a tier where the general partner is receiving 50% of every incremental dollar paid to common and subordinated unit holders. By providing for incentive distributions the general partner is encouraged to streamline costs and acquire assets in order to grow the partnership, increase the partnership's cash flow, and raise the quarterly cash distribution in order to reach higher tiers. Such results benefit all security holders of the MLP. MLPs may also be structured as limited liability companies with different corporate governance.

If the Fund's investment in qualifying MLPs exceeds 25% or such other percentage as may be permitted by the Internal Revenue Service, of the value of the Fund's total assets at the end of any quarter in which the Fund is required to test its diversification, the Fund may not qualify as a regulated investment company for federal income tax purposes unless the Fund takes corrective measures within 30 days of the end of the quarter.

### Non-U.S. Investments

The Fund may invest in U.S. dollar-denominated depositary receipts, U.S. dollar-denominated foreign securities and non-U.S. dollar-denominated foreign securities. The Fund's investments may include American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs") and Global

Depositary Receipts ("GDRs"). Depository receipts are securities issued by a bank or trust company reflecting ownership of underlying securities issued by a foreign company.

The Fund may invest in non-U.S. securities, which may include securities denominated in U.S. dollars or in non-U.S. currencies. Because evidences of ownership of such securities usually are held outside the United States, the Fund would be subject to additional risks if it invested in non-U.S. securities, which include possible adverse political and economic developments, seizure or nationalization of foreign deposits and adoption of governmental restrictions which might adversely affect or restrict the payment of distributions on the non-U.S. securities to investors located outside the country of the issuer, whether from currency blockage or otherwise. Since non-U.S. securities may be purchased with and payable in foreign currencies, the value of these assets as measured in U.S. dollars may be affected favorably or unfavorably by changes in currency rates and exchange control regulations.

### **Non-Principal Investments**

### **Illiquid Investments**

The Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets in securities and other instruments that are, at the time of investment, illiquid (determined using the Securities and Exchange Commission's standard applicable to investment companies, *i.e.*, any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment). For this purpose, illiquid investments may include, but are not limited to, restricted securities (securities the disposition of which is restricted under the federal securities laws), securities that may only be resold pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), that are deemed to be illiquid, and certain repurchase agreements.

### Cash Equivalents and Short-Term Investments

Normally, the Fund invests substantially all of its assets to meet its investment objective. The Fund may invest the remainder of its assets in securities with maturities of less than one year or cash equivalents, or it may hold cash. The percentage of the Fund invested in such holdings varies and depends on several factors, including market conditions. For temporary defensive purposes and during periods of high cash inflows or outflows, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and invest part or all of its assets in these securities, or it may hold cash. During such periods, the Fund may not be able to achieve its investment objective. The Fund may adopt a defensive strategy when the portfolio managers believe securities in which the Fund normally invests have elevated risks due to political or economic factors and in other extraordinary circumstances. For more information on eligible short-term investments, see the SAI.

### **Disclosure of Portfolio Holdings**

The Fund's portfolio holdings are available on the Fund's website at http://www.ftportfolios.com. A description of the policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the Fund's portfolio securities is included in the Fund's SAI, which is also available on the Fund's website.

# Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. Investing in the Fund involves risk, including the risk that you may lose all or part of your investment. There can be no assurance that the Fund will meet its stated objective. Before you invest, you should consider the following supplemental disclosure pertaining to the Principal Risks set forth above as well as additional Non-Principal Risks set forth below in this prospectus. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

### **Principal Risks**

**AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT CONCENTRATION RISK.** Only an authorized participant may engage in creation or redemption transactions directly with the Fund. A limited number of institutions act as authorized participants for the Fund. However, participants are not obligated to make a market in the Fund's shares or submit purchase and redemption orders for creation units. To the extent that these institutions exit the business, reduce their role or are unable to proceed with creation and/or redemption orders and no other authorized participant steps forward to create or redeem, the Fund's shares may trade at a premium or discount to the Fund's net asset value and possibly face delisting and the bid/ask spread on the Fund's shares may widen.

CALL OPTIONS RISK. The use of call options involves risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. As the seller (writer) of a call option, the Fund will tend to lose money if the value of the reference index or security rises above the strike price, however, such loss will be partially offset by any premium received from the sale of the option. When writing a call option, the Fund will have no control over the exercise of the option by the option holderand the American style options sold by the Fund may be exercised at any time before the option expiration date. The call options sold by the Fund are anticipated to be American style options. A number of factors may influence the option holder's decision to exercise the option, including the value of the underlying security or index, price volatility, currency exchange rates, dividend yield and interest rates. To the extent that these factors increase the value of the call option, the option holder is more likely to exercise the option, which may negatively affect the Fund. The effective use of options also depends on the Fund's ability to terminate option positions at times deemed desirable to do so. There is no assurance that the Fund will be able to effect closing transactions at any particular time or at an acceptable price. There may be times the Fund needs to sell securities at a loss in order to settle an option position, which could result in the distribution of premium from that option position being classified as a return of capital. Other times, the Fund may need to sell securities at a gain in order to settle an option position, which could result in the Fund being required to make additional distributions. Either result could cause an investor's returns to vary from expectations. When the Fund sells a call option on an index or an ETF, the call is "uncovered" (i.e., the Fund does not own the underlying security), therefore the potential losses on such call options are theoretically unlimited. Additionally, when the Fund sells a call option on an ETF, it may be required to acquire shares of the ETF in order to satisfy it's obligation on the call option, which could result in additional costs to the Fund. In addition, there may at times be an imperfect correlation between the movement in values of options and their reference index or security and there may at times not be a liquid secondary market for certain options. Options may also involve the use of leverage, which could result in greater price volatility than other markets.

CASH TRANSACTIONS RISK. The Fund intends to effect a portion of its creations and redemptions for cash rather than in-kind. As a result, an investment in the Fund may be less tax-efficient than an investment in an ETF that effects its creations and redemptions only in-kind. ETFs are able to make in-kind redemptions and avoid being taxed on gains on the distributed portfolio securities at the fund level. The Fund may be required to sell portfolio securities in order to obtain the cash needed to distribute redemption proceeds. Any recognized gain on these sales by the Fund will generally cause the Fund to recognize a gain it might not otherwise have recognized, or to recognize such gain sooner than would otherwise be required if it were to distribute portfolio securities only in-kind. The Fund intends to distribute these gains to shareholders to avoid being taxed on this gain at the fund level and otherwise comply with the special tax rules that apply to it. This strategy may cause shareholders to be subject to tax on gains they would not otherwise be subject to, or at an earlier date than if they had made an investment in a different ETF. Moreover, cash transactions may have to be carried out over several days if the securities market is relatively illiquid and may involve considerable brokerage fees and taxes. These brokerage fees and taxes, which will be higher than if the Fund sold and redeemed its shares entirely in-kind, will be passed on to those purchasing and redeeming Creation Units in the form of creation and redemption transaction fees. In addition, these factors may result in wider spreads between the bid and the offered prices of the Fund's shares than for ETFs that distribute portfolio securities in-kind.

COUNTERPARTY RISK. If the Fund enters into an investment or transaction that depends on the performance of another party, the Fund becomes subject to the credit risk of that counterparty. The Fund's ability to profit from these types of investments and transactions depends on the willingness and ability of the Fund's counterparty to perform its obligations. If a counterparty fails to meet its contractual obligations, the Fund may be unable to terminate or realize any gain on the investment or transaction, resulting in a loss to the Fund. The Fund may experience significant delays in obtaining any recovery in an insolvency, bankruptcy, or other reorganization proceeding involving a counterparty (including recovery of any collateral posted by it) and may obtain only a limited recovery or may obtain no recovery in such circumstances. If the Fund holds collateral posted by its counterparty, it may be delayed or prevented from realizing on the collateral in the event of a bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding relating to the counterparty. Under applicable law or contractual provisions, including if the Fund enters into an investment or transaction with a financial institution and such financial institution (or an affiliate of the financial institution) experiences financial difficulties, then the Fund may in certain situations be prevented or delayed from exercising its rights to terminate the investment or transaction, or to realize on any collateral and may result in the suspension of payment and delivery obligations of the parties under such investment or transactions or in another institution being substituted for that financial institution without the consent of the Fund. Further, the Fund may be subject to "bail-in" risk under applicable law whereby, if required by the financial institution's authority, the financial institution's liabilities could be written down, eliminated or converted into equity or an alternative instrument of ownership. A bail-in of a financial institution may result in a reduction in value of some or all of securities and, if the Fund holds such securities or has entered into a transaction with such a financial security when a bail-in occurs, the Fund may also be similarly impacted.

**CURRENCY RISK.** The Fund may hold investments that are denominated in non-U.S. currencies, or in securities that provide exposure to such currencies, currency exchange rates or interest rates denominated in such currencies. Changes in currency exchange rates affect the value of investments denominated in a foreign currency, the value of dividends and interest earned from such securities and gains and losses realized on the sale of such securities. The Fund's net asset value could decline if a currency to which the Fund has exposure depreciates against the U.S. dollar or if there are delays or limits on repatriation of such currency. Currency exchange rates can be very volatile and can change quickly and unpredictably. Changes in currency exchange rates may affect the Fund's net asset value, the value of dividends and interest earned, and gains and losses realized on the sale of securities. An increase in the strength of the U.S. dollar relative to other currencies may cause the value of the Fund to decline. Certain non-U.S. currencies may be particularly volatile, and non-U.S. governments may intervene in the currency markets, causing a decline in value or liquidity in the Fund's non-U.S. holdings whose value is tied to the affected non-U.S. currency. Additionally, the prices of non-U.S. securities that are traded in U.S. dollars are often indirectly influenced by currency fluctuations.

**CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS RISK.** Current market conditions risk is the risk that a particular investment, or shares of the Fund in general, may fall in value due to current market conditions.

As a means to fight inflation, which remains at elevated levels, the Federal Reserve and certain foreign central banks have raised interest rates; however, the Federal Reserve has recently lowered interest rates and may continue to do so. U.S. regulators have proposed several changes to market and issuer regulations which would directly impact the Fund. While it is hard to predict whether any of these regulations will be adopted, due to the current scope of proposed regulations, any regulatory changes could adversely impact the Fund's ability to achieve its investment strategies or make certain investments. Regulatory changes may also increase Fund operational costs, which could impact overall performance. Certain market factors may result in central banks changing their approach in the future. Recent and potential future bank failures could result in disruption to the broader banking industry or markets generally and reduce confidence in financial institutions and the economy as a whole, which may also heighten market volatility and reduce liquidity. Additionally, challenges in commercial real estate markets, including rising interest rates, declining valuations and increasing vacancies, could have a broader impact on financial markets.

The ongoing adversarial political climate in the United States, as well as political and diplomatic events both domestic and abroad, such as presidential, congressional and gubernatorial elections in the U.S., global elections and governmental changes and the U.S. government's failure to agree on a long-term budget and deficit reduction plan, have and may continue to have an adverse impact on the U.S. regulatory landscape, markets and investor behavior, which could have a negative impact on the Fund's investments and operations. The potential result of a U.S. federal government shutdown may also significantly impact investor and consumer behavior, which may adversely impact the markets and global economy. The change in administration resulting from the 2024 United States national elections could result in significant impacts to international trade relations, tax and immigration policies, and other aspects of the national and international political and financial landscape, which could affect, among other things, inflation and the securities markets generally. Global and domestic authorities and regulators have previously responded to serious economic disruptions with ranging fiscal and monetary policy changes, including but not limited to, direct capital infusions into companies, new monetary programs and dramatically lower interest rates. Any change in these policies, or the ineffectiveness of these policies, could increase volatility in securities markets, which may adversely impact the Fund's investments and performance. Any market disruptions could also delay the Fund from making sound investment decisions in a timely manner. If the Fund concentrates its investments in a region enduring geopolitical market disruption, it may face higher risk of loss, although the increasing interconnectivity between global economies and financial markets can lead to events or conditions in one country, region or financial market adversely impacting a different country, region or financial market.

Other unexpected political, regulatory and diplomatic events within the U.S. and abroad may affect investor and consumer confidence and may adversely impact financial markets and the broader economy. For example, ongoing armed conflicts between Russia and Ukraine in Europe and among Israel, Iran, Hamas and other militant groups in the Middle East, have caused and could continue to cause significant market disruptions and volatility within the markets in Russia, Europe, the Middle East and the United States. The hostilities and sanctions resulting from those hostilities have and could continue to have a significant impact on certain Fund investments as well as Fund performance and liquidity. The economies of the United States and its trading partners, as well as the financial markets generally, may be adversely impacted by trade disputes, including the imposition of tariffs, and other matters. For example, the United States has imposed trade barriers and restrictions on China. In addition, the Chinese government is engaged in a longstanding dispute with Taiwan, continually threatening an invasion. If the political climate between the United States and China does not improve or continues to deteriorate, if China were to attempt invading Taiwan, or if other geopolitical conflicts develop or worsen, economies, markets and individual securities may be adversely affected, and the value of the Fund's assets may go down. A public health crisis and the ensuing policies

enacted by governments and central banks may cause significant volatility and uncertainty in global financial markets, negatively impacting global growth prospects. As the COVID-19 global pandemic illustrated, such events may affect certain geographic regions, countries, sectors and industries more significantly than others.

Advancements in technology may also adversely impact markets and the overall performance of the Fund. For instance, the economy may be significantly impacted by the advanced development and increased regulation of artificial intelligence. As the use of technology grows, liquidity and market movements may be affected. As artificial intelligence is used more widely, the profitability and growth of Fund holdings may be impacted, which could significantly impact the overall performance of the Fund. Additionally, cyber security breaches of both government and non-government entities could have negative impacts on infrastructure and the ability of such entities, including the Fund, to operate properly.

These events, and any other future events, may adversely affect the prices and liquidity of the Fund's portfolio investments and could result in disruptions in the trading markets.

CYBER SECURITY RISK. The Fund is susceptible to operational risks through breaches in cyber security. A breach in cyber security refers to both intentional and unintentional events that may cause the Fund to lose proprietary information, suffer data corruption or lose operational capacity. Such events could cause the Fund to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs associated with corrective measures and/or financial loss. These risks typically are not covered by insurance. In general, cyber incidents can result from deliberate attacks or unintentional events. Cyber incidents include, but are not limited to, gaining unauthorized access to digital systems (e.g., through "hacking" or malicious software coding) for purposes of misappropriating assets or sensitive information, corrupting data or causing operational disruption. Cyber attacks may also be carried out in a manner that does not require gaining unauthorized access, such as causing denial-of-service attacks on websites (i.e., efforts to make network services unavailable to intended users). Cyber security failures by or breaches of the systems of the Advisor, distributor and other service providers (including, but not limited to, sub-advisors, index providers, fund accountants, custodians, transfer agents and administrators), market makers, authorized participants or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests, have the ability to cause disruptions and impact business operations, potentially resulting in: financial losses; interference with the Fund's ability to calculate its net asset value; disclosure of confidential trading information; impediments to trading; submission of erroneous trades or erroneous creation or redemption orders; the inability of the Fund or its service providers to transact business; violations of applicable privacy and other laws; regulatory fines penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs; or additional compliance costs. Substantial costs may be incurred by the Fund in order to resolve or prevent cyber incidents in the future. While the Fund has established business continuity plans in the event of, and risk management systems to prevent, such cyber attacks, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems, including the possibility that certain risks have not been identified and that prevention and remediation efforts will not be successful. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems put in place by service providers to the Fund, issuers in which the Fund invests, market makers or authorized participants. However, there is no guarantee that such efforts will succeed, and the Fund and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.

**DEPOSITARY RECEIPTS RISK.** Depositary receipts are securities issued by a bank or trust company reflecting ownership of underlying securities issued by a foreign company. An investment in depositary receipts involves further risks due to certain unique features. Any distributions paid to the holders of depositary receipts are usually subject to a fee charged by the depositary. Holders of depositary receipts may have limited voting rights pursuant to a deposit agreement between the underlying issuer and the depositary. In certain cases, the depositary will vote the shares deposited with it as directed by the underlying issuer's board of directors. Furthermore, investment restrictions in certain countries may adversely impact the value of depositary receipts because such restrictions may limit the ability to convert shares into depositary receipts and vice versa. Such restrictions may cause shares of the underlying issuer to trade at a discount or premium to the market price of the depositary receipt. Moreover, if depositary receipts are converted into shares, the laws in certain countries may limit the ability of a non-resident to trade the shares and to reconvert the shares to depositary receipts. Depositary receipts may be "sponsored" or "unsponsored." Sponsored depositary receipts are established jointly by a depositary and the underlying issuer, whereas unsponsored depositary receipts may be established by a depositary without participation by the underlying issuer. Holders of unsponsored depositary receipts generally bear all the costs associated with establishing the unsponsored depositary receipts. In addition, the issuers of the securities underlying unsponsored depositary receipts are not obligated to disclose material information in the U.S. and, therefore, there may be less information available regarding such issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depositary receipts.

**DERIVATIVES RISK.** The use of derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. These risks include or may include: (i) the risk that the

value of the underlying assets may go up or down; (ii) the risk that the counterparty to a derivative transaction may not fulfill its contractual obligations; (iii) the risk of mispricing or improper valuation of a derivative; (iv) the risk that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset; (v) the risk that a derivative instrument cannot be sold, closed out or replaced quickly at or very close to its fundamental value; (vi) the risk of loss caused by the unenforceability of a party's obligations under the derivative; and (vii) the risk that a disruption in the financial markets will cause difficulties for all market participants. Derivative prices are highly volatile and may fluctuate substantially during a short period of time. Such prices are influenced by numerous factors that affect the markets, including, but not limited to: changing supply and demand relationships; government programs and policies; national and international political and economic events, changes in interest rates, inflation and deflation and changes in supply and demand relationships. Trading derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities. Derivative contracts ordinarily have leverage inherent in their terms. The low margin deposits normally required in trading derivatives, including futures contracts, permit a high degree of leverage. Accordingly, a relatively small price movement may result in an immediate and substantial loss. The use of leverage may also cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it would not be advantageous to do so in order to satisfy its obligations or to meet regulatory or contractual requirements for derivatives. The use of leveraged derivatives can magnify potential for gain or loss and, therefore, amplify the effects of market volatility on share price.

**DISTRIBUTION TAX RISK.** The Fund currently expects to make distributions on a regular basis. While the Fund will normally pay its income as distributions, the Fund's distributions may exceed the Fund's income and gains for the Fund's taxable year. The Fund may be required to reduce its distributions if it has insufficient income. Additionally, there may be times the Fund needs to sell securities when it would not otherwise do so in order to settle an option position, which could result in the distribution of premium from that option position being classified as a return of capital. This occurs because while the distribution consisted of the premium received from the sale of the call option, the Fund later sold securities to generate proceeds to settle that call option. Distributions in excess of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits will be treated as a return of capital. Distributions in excess of the Fund's minimum distribution requirements, but not in excess of the Fund's earnings and profits, will be taxable to Fund shareholders and will not constitute nontaxable returns of capital. A return of capital distribution generally will not be taxable but will reduce the shareholder's cost basis and will result in a higher capital gain or lower capital loss when those Fund shares on which the distribution was received are sold. Once a Fund shareholder's cost basis is reduced to zero, further distributions will be treated as capital gain, if the Fund shareholder holds shares of the Fund as capital assets. Additionally, any capital returned through distributions will be distributed after payment of Fund fees and expenses. Because the Fund's distributions may consist of return of capital, the Fund may not be an appropriate investment for investors who do not want their principal investment in the Fund to decrease over time or who do not wish to receive return of capital in a given period. In the event that a shareholder purchases shares of the Fund shortly before a distribution by the Fund, the entire distribution may be taxable to the shareholder even though a portion of the distribution effectively represents a return of the purchase price.

The Fund's investment strategy may limit its ability to distribute dividends eligible for treatment as qualified dividend income, which for non-corporate shareholders are subject to federal income tax at rates of up to 20%. The Fund's investment strategy may also limit its ability to distribute dividends eligible for the dividends-received deduction for corporate shareholders. For these reasons, a significant portion of distributions received by Fund shareholders may be subject to tax at effective tax rates that are higher than the rates that would apply if the Fund were to engage in a different investment strategy.

**DIVIDENDS RISK.** The Fund's investment in dividend-paying securities could cause the Fund to underperform similar funds that invest without consideration of an issuer's track record of paying dividends. Companies that issue dividend-yielding securities are not required to continue to pay dividends on such securities. Therefore, there is the possibility that such companies could reduce or eliminate the payment of dividends in the future especially if the companies are facing an economic downturn, which could negatively affect the Fund's performance.

**ENERGY COMPANIES RISK.** The Fund's investments will be concentrated (*i.e.*, invest more than 25% of Fund assets) in any one industry or group of industries constituting the energy sector. A concentration makes the Fund more susceptible to any single occurrence within the energy sector and may subject the Fund to greater market risk than a fund that is more broadly diversified. The Fund invests significantly in energy companies. The success of energy companies is cyclical and highly dependent on energy prices. The market value of securities issued by energy companies may decline for many reasons, including, among other things, changes in the levels and volatility of global energy prices, energy supply and demand, capital expenditures on exploration and production of energy sources, exchange rates, interest rates, economic conditions, tax treatment, energy conservation efforts, increased competition and technological advances. Energy companies may be subject to substantial government regulation and contractual fixed pricing, which may increase the cost of doing business and limit

the earnings of these companies. A significant portion of the revenues of these companies may depend on a relatively small number of customers, including governmental entities and utilities. As a result, governmental budget constraints may have a material adverse effect on the stock prices of energy companies. Energy companies may also operate in, or engage in transactions involving, countries with less developed regulatory regimes or a history of expropriation, nationalization or other adverse policies. Energy companies also face a significant risk of liability from accidents resulting in injury or loss of life or property, pollution or other environmental problems, equipment malfunctions or mishandling of materials and a risk of loss from terrorism, political strife or natural disasters. Energy companies can be significantly affected by the supply of, and demand for, specific products (e.g., oil and natural gas) and services, exploration and production spending, government subsidization, world events and general economic conditions. Energy companies may have relatively high levels of debt and may be more likely than other companies to restructure their businesses if there are downturns in energy markets or in the global economy.

**ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE COMPANIES RISK.** The Fund invests significantly in energy infrastructure companies. Energy infrastructure companies are subject to risks specific to the energy and energy-related industries. This includes but is not limited to: fluctuations in commodity prices impacting the volume of energy commodities transported, processed, stored or distributed; reductions in volumes of natural gas or other energy commodities being available for transporting, processing, storing or distributing; slowdowns in new construction and acquisitions limiting growth potential; reduced demand for oil, natural gas and petroleum products, particularly for a sustained period of time; depletion of natural gas reserves or other commodities; rising interest rates resulting in higher costs of capital, increased operating costs and an inability to execute acquisitions or expansion projects in a cost-effective manner; counterparties to contracts defaulting or going bankrupt; extreme weather events and environmental hazards; and threats of attack by terrorists on energy assets. In addition, energy infrastructure companies are subject to significant federal, state and local government regulation in virtually every aspect of their operations, including how facilities are constructed, maintained and operated, environmental and safety controls, and the prices they may charge for products and services. Energy infrastructure companies may also face counterparty risk such that long term contracts may be declared void if the counterparty to those contracts enters into bankruptcy proceedings. Energy infrastructure companies that own interstate pipelines are subject to regulation by U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") with respect to the tariff rates they may charge for transportation services. An adverse determination by FERC with respect to the tariff rates of such a company could have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows and its ability to pay cash distributions or dividends. Various governmental authorities have the power to enforce compliance with these regulations and the permits issued under them and violators are subject to administrative, civil and criminal penalties, including civil fines, injunctions or both. Stricter laws, regulations or enforcement policies could be enacted in the future which would likely increase compliance costs and may adversely affect the financial performance of energy infrastructure companies. Certain energy infrastructure companies in the utilities industry are subject to the imposition of rate caps, increased competition due to deregulation, the difficulty in obtaining an adequate return on invested capital or in financing large construction projects, the limitations on operations and increased costs and delays attributable to environmental considerations, and the capital market's ability to absorb utility debt. In addition, taxes, government regulation, international politics, price and supply fluctuations, volatile interest rates and energy conservation may cause difficulties for these companies. Such issuers have been experiencing certain of these problems to varying degrees. Certain energy infrastructure companies are involved in the production of electrical equipment and components. General risks of these companies include the general state of the economy, exchange rates, commodity prices, intense competition, consolidation, domestic and international politics, government regulation, import controls, excess capacity, consumer demand and spending trends. In addition, the companies may also be significantly affected by overall capital spending levels, economic cycles, rapid technological changes, delays in modernization, labor relations, environmental liabilities, governmental and product liability and e-commerce initiatives.

Certain energy infrastructure companies engage in renewable and alternative energy activities. These companies can be significantly affected by obsolescence of existing technology, short product cycles, legislation resulting in more strict government regulations and enforcement policies, limited resources, fluctuations in energy prices, including the supply of and demand for renewable and alternative energy sources, and supply and demand of alternative energy fuels and energy conservation.

**EQUITY SECURITIES RISK.** The value of the Fund's shares will fluctuate with changes in the value of the equity securities in which it invests. Equity securities prices fluctuate for several reasons, including changes in investors' perceptions of the financial condition of an issuer or the general condition of the relevant equity market, such as market volatility, or when political or economic events affecting the issuers occur. Common stock prices may be particularly sensitive to rising interest rates, as the cost of capital rises and borrowing costs increase. Equity securities may decline significantly in price over short or extended periods of time, and such declines may occur in the equity market as a whole, or they may occur in only a particular country, company, industry or sector of the market. Additionally, holders of an issuer's common stock may be subject to greater risks

than holders of its preferred stock and debt securities because common stockholders' claims are subordinated to those of holders of preferred stocks and debt securities upon the bankruptcy of an issuer.

**INDEX OR MODEL CONSTITUENT RISK.** The Fund may be a constituent of one or more indices or ETF models. As a result, the Fund may be included in one or more index-tracking ETFs or mutual funds. Being a component security of such a vehicle could greatly affect the trading activity involving the Fund's shares, the size of the Fund and the market volatility of the Fund's shares. Inclusion in an index could increase demand for the Fund and removal from an index could result in outsized selling activity in a relatively short period of time. As a result, the Fund's net asset value could be negatively impacted and the Fund's market price may be below the Fund's net asset value during certain periods. In addition, index rebalances may potentially result in increased trading activity. To the extent buying or selling activity increases, the Fund can be exposed to increased brokerage costs and adverse tax consequences and the market price of the Fund can be negatively affected.

**INFLATION RISK.** Inflation risk is the risk that the value of assets or income from investments will be less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the present value of the Fund's assets and distributions may decline. Inflation creates uncertainty over the future real value (after inflation) of an investment. Inflation rates may change frequently and drastically as a result of various factors, including unexpected shifts in the domestic or global economy, and the Fund's investments may not keep pace with inflation, which may result in losses to Fund investors.

**LARGE CAPITALIZATION COMPANIES RISK.** Large capitalization companies may grow at a slower rate and be less able to adapt to changing market conditions than smaller capitalization companies. Thus, the return on investment in securities of large capitalization companies may be less than the return on investment in securities of small and/or mid capitalization companies. The performance of large capitalization companies also tends to trail the overall market during different market cycles.

**LEVERAGE RISK.** The Fund has exposure to instruments subjecting them to leverage risk. Leverage may result in losses that exceed the amount originally invested and may accelerate the rates of losses. Leverage tends to magnify, sometimes significantly, the effect of any increase or decrease in the Fund's's exposure to an asset or class of assets and may cause the value of the Fund's's portfolio and the Fund's's shares to be volatile and sensitive to market swings. Certain instruments have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment.

**LIQUIDITY RISK.** The Fund may have investments that it may not be able to dispose of or close out readily at a favorable time or price (or at all), or at a price approximating the Fund's valuation of the investment. For example, certain investments may trade in limited volume, or may not have an active trading market. Illiquid securities may trade at a discount from comparable, more liquid investments and may be subject to wide fluctuations in market value. It may be difficult for the Fund to value illiquid securities accurately. The market for certain investments may become illiquid under adverse market or economic conditions independent of any specific adverse changes in the conditions of a particular issuer. If the Fund needed to sell a large block of illiquid securities to meet shareholder redemption request or to raise cash, these sales could further reduce the securities' prices and adversely affect performance of the Fund. Disposal of illiquid securities may entail registration expenses and other transaction costs that are higher than those for liquid securities.

**MANAGEMENT RISK.** The Fund is subject to management risk because it is an actively managed portfolio. In managing the Fund's investment portfolio, the portfolio managers will apply investment techniques and risk analyses that may not produce the desired result. There can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective, meet relevant benchmarks or perform as well as other funds with similar objectives.

MARKET MAKER RISK. The Fund faces numerous market trading risks, including the potential lack of an active market for Fund shares due to a limited number of market markers. Decisions by market makers or authorized participants to reduce their role or step away from these activities in times of market stress could inhibit the effectiveness of the arbitrage process in maintaining the relationship between the underlying values of the Fund's portfolio securities and the Fund's market price. The Fund may rely on a small number of third-party market makers to provide a market for the purchase and sale of shares. Any trading halt or other problem relating to the trading activity of these market makers could result in a dramatic change in the spread between the Fund's net asset value and the price at which the Fund's shares are trading on the Exchange, which could result in a decrease in value of the Fund's shares. This reduced effectiveness could result in Fund shares trading at a discount to net asset value and also in greater than normal intraday bid-ask spreads for Fund shares.

**MARKET RISK.** Market risk is the risk that a particular investment, or shares of the Fund in general, may fall in value. Securities are subject to market fluctuations caused by real or perceived adverse economic, political, and regulatory factors or market developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in securities prices. Shares of the Fund could decline in value

or underperform other investments. In addition, local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, market manipulation, government defaults, government shutdowns, regulatory actions, political changes, diplomatic developments, the imposition of sanctions and other similar measures, spread of infectious diseases or other public health issues, recessions, natural disasters, or other events could have a significant negative impact on the Fund and its investments. Any of such circumstances could have a materially negative impact on the value of the Fund's shares, the liquidity of an investment, and may result in increased market volatility. During any such events, the Fund's shares may trade at increased premiums or discounts to their net asset value, the bid/ask spread on the Fund's shares may widen and the returns on investment may fluctuate.

MLP RISK. Investments in securities of MLPs involve certain risks different from or in addition to the risks of investing in common stocks, including for example risks related to the limited ability of investors to control an MLP and to vote on matters affecting the MLP, risks related to potential conflicts of interest between an MLP and the MLP's general partner, the risk that an MLP will generate insufficient cash flow to meet its current operating requirements, the risk that an MLP will issue additional securities or engage in other transactions that will have the effect of diluting the interests of existing investors, and risks related to the general partner's right to require investors to sell their common units at an undesirable time or price. MLP common units can be affected by macro-economic and other factors affecting the stock market in general, changes or anticipated changes in interest rates, investor sentiment towards MLPs or the energy sector generally, changes in a particular issuer's financial condition, or unfavorable or unanticipated poor performance of a particular issuer (in the case of MLPs, generally measured in terms of distributable cash flow). Prices of common units of individual MLPs also can be affected by other factors unique to the partnership or company, including earnings power and coverage ratios. Certain MLP securities may trade in relatively low volumes due to their smaller capitalizations or other factors, which may cause them to have a high degree of price volatility and lack sufficient market liquidity to enable the Fund to effect a sale at an advantageous time or price. Because many MLPs pay out most of their operating cash flows, the MLPs rely on capital markets for access to equity and debt financing to fund growth through organization. If market conditions limit an MLPs access to capital markets, the MLPs growth prospects could diminish and its costs of capital increase, which would decrease the value of the common units held by the Fund. MLPs are now a higher cost way of financing these industries; the reverse of the conditions that led to the growth of the asset class in the early part of the last decade. As a result, the industry is witnessing the consolidation or simplification of corporate structures where the MLP sleeve of capital is being eliminated because it no longer reduces a company's cost of equity financing. Even for MLPs that have avoided exposure to commodity prices and have been successful in growing their dividends, the cost of the MLP structure has risen due to growing incentive payments to the general partner. These incentives increase with per share dividend growth at the limited partnership level and are due on newly issued shares, as well as older shares that have experienced the growth. As a result, the more successful the MLP is in growing its dividends, the closer it gets to paying incentives to the parent/general partner that are more onerous than a tax at the corporate level. The lower the corporate tax rate, the sooner this threshold is crossed. In many cases, MLPs are merely a part of the corporate finance structure of a company. MLPs are created when they lower the cost of equity financing and are no longer used when they do not.

MLP TAX RISK. The Fund's ability to meet its investment objective relies in part upon the level of taxable income it receives from the MLPs in which it invests, a factor over which the Fund has no control. The benefit the Fund derives from its investment in MLPs is largely dependent on their being treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Partnerships do not pay U.S. federal income tax at the partnership level. Rather, each partner is allocated a share of the partnership's income, gains, losses, deductions and expenses. A change in current tax law or a change in the underlying business mix of a given MLP could result in an MLP being treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, which would result in the MLP being required to pay U.S. federal income tax (as well as state and local income taxes) on its taxable income at the applicable corporate tax rate. This would have the effect of reducing the amount of cash available for distribution by an MLP and could result in a significant reduction in the value of the Fund's investment. The classification of an MLP as a corporation for U. S. federal income tax purposes would have the effect of reducing the amount of cash available for distribution by the MLP and causing any such distributions received by the Fund to be taxed as dividend income to the extent of the MLP's current or accumulated earnings and profits. To the extent a distribution received by the Fund from an MLP is treated as a return of capital, the Fund's adjusted tax basis in the interests of the MLP may be reduced, which will result in an increase in the amount of income or gain (or decrease in the amount of loss) that will be recognized by the Fund for tax purposes upon the sale of any such interests or upon subsequent distributions in respect of such interests. Furthermore, any return of capital distribution received from an MLP may require the Fund to restate the character of its distributions and amend any shareholder tax reporting previously issued. See "Deferred Tax Liability Risk."

**NON-DIVERSIFICATION RISK.** As a "non-diversified" fund, the Fund may hold a smaller number of portfolio securities than many other funds and may be more sensitive to any single economic, business, political or regulatory occurrence than a diversified fund. To the extent the Fund invests in a relatively small number of issuers due to the high percentage of the Fund's

assets invested in that security, a decline in the market value of a particular security held by the Fund may affect its value more than if it invested in a larger number of issuers. The value of the Fund's shares may be more volatile than the values of shares of more diversified funds.

**NON-U.S. SECURITIES RISK.** An investment in securities of non-U.S. companies involves risks not associated with domestic issuers. Investment in non-U.S. securities may involve higher costs than investment in U.S. securities, including higher transaction and custody costs as well as the imposition of additional taxes by non-U.S. governments. Non-U.S. investments may also involve risks associated with the level of currency exchange rates, less complete financial information about the issuers, less market liquidity, more market volatility and political instability. Future political and economic developments, the possible imposition of withholding taxes on dividend income, the possible seizure or nationalization of non-U.S. holdings, the imposition of sanctions by foreign governments, the possible establishment of capital controls, exchange controls or freezes on the convertibility of currency or the adoption of other governmental restrictions might adversely affect an investment in non-U.S. securities. Additionally, non-U.S. issuers may be subject to less stringent regulation, and to different accounting, auditing and recordkeeping requirements. The U.S. and non-U.S. markets often rise and fall at different times or by different amounts due to economic or other regional developments particular to a given country or region.

**OPERATIONAL RISK**. The Fund is subject to risks arising from various operational factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third-parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or systems failures. The Fund relies on third-parties for a range of services, including custody. Any delay or failure relating to engaging or maintaining such service providers may affect the Fund's ability to meet its investment objective. Although the Fund and the Fund's investment advisor seek to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures, there is no way to completely protect against such risks.

OPTIONS RISK. The Fund may utilize options. The use of options involves investment strategies and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. The prices of options are influenced by, among other things, actual and anticipated changes in the value of the underlying instrument, or in interest or currency exchange rates, including the anticipated volatility, which in turn are affected by fiscal and monetary policies and by national and international political and economic events. As the seller (writer) of a call option, the Fund will lose money if the value of the reference index or security rises above the strike price and the buyer exercises the option; however, such loss will be partially offset by any premium received from the sale of the option. As the buyer of a put or call option, the buyer risks losing the entire premium invested in the option if the buyer does not exercise the option. The effective use of options also depends on the Fund's ability to terminate option positions at times deemed desirable to do so. There is no assurance that the Fund will be able to effect closing transactions at any particular time or at an acceptable price. In addition, there may at times be an imperfect correlation between the movement in values of options and their underlying securities and there may at times not be a liquid secondary market for certain options. There may be times the Fund needs to sell securities at a loss in order to settle an option position, which could result in the distribution of premium from that option position being classified as a return of capital. Other times, the Fund may need to sell securities at a gain in order to settle an option position, which could result in the Fund being required to make additional distributions. Either result could cause an investor's returns to vary from expectations. Options may also involve the use of leverage, which could result in greater price volatility than other securities.

**PORTFOLIO CORRELATION RISK**. The Fund's portfolio is composed of both equity securities and written call options. Because some of the options are written on indexes and/or ETFs instead of the equity securities held by the Fund, the Fund's investments may not be fully correlated, meaning their performance is independent of one another. Market events may impact one position held by the Fund more than the other position and the returns from the Fund's investments in equity securities and written call options may not move in the same direction as one another.

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER RISK.** The Fund has an investment strategy that may frequently involve buying and selling portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover may result in the Fund paying higher levels of transaction costs, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other costs and may generate greater tax liabilities for shareholders. Portfolio turnover risk may cause the Fund's performance to be less than expected.

**PREMIUM/DISCOUNT RISK.** The market price of the Fund's shares will generally fluctuate in accordance with changes in the Fund's net asset value as well as the relative supply of and demand for shares on the Exchange. First Trust cannot predict whether shares will trade below, at or above their net asset value because the shares trade on the Exchange at market prices and not at net asset value. Price differences may be due, in large part, to the fact that supply and demand forces at work in the secondary trading market for shares will be closely related, but not identical, to the same forces influencing the prices of the holdings of the Fund trading individually or in the aggregate at any point in time. However, given that shares can only be purchased and redeemed in Creation Units, and only to and from broker-dealers and large institutional investors that have

entered into participation agreements (unlike shares of closed-end funds, which frequently trade at appreciable discounts from, and sometimes at premiums to, their net asset value), First Trust believes that large discounts or premiums to the net asset value of shares should not be sustained absent disruptions to the creation and redemption mechanism, extreme market volatility or potential lack of authorized participants. During stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the market for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings, which could in turn lead to differences between the market price of the Fund's shares and their net asset value and the bid/ask spread on the Fund's shares may widen.

**REORGANIZATION TAX RISK.** Because of the Fund's involvement in reorganizations of closed-end funds that had elected to be treated as C corporations for U.S. federal income tax purposes ("C Corps"), it is subject to potential additional tax consequences. As a result of such reorganizations, the Fund may need to make distributions during its first taxable year attributable to C Corp earnings and profits, which would be treated as ordinary dividends. Depending on an investor's particular situation, the dividends may be qualified dividends eligible for a capital gains rate or the dividends received deduction if the investor is a corporation. Additionally, to the extent the ultimate nature of the tax position of any MLPs held by the closed-end funds prior to the reorganizations could not be known at the time of the reorganizations (due to the timing of the release of the MLPs' Schedule K-1s), it is likely that adjustments ("true-ups") will need to be made to the C Corp closed-end fund net asset values that had been estimated for purposes of the reorganizations, potentially resulting in additional and, depending on market conditions, potentially significant tax liabilities that would be borne by the Fund (as opposed to by the respective C Corp closed-end funds had such information been available prior to the reorganizations). Furthermore, such true-ups could necessitate additional taxable distributions or otherwise result in the payment of excise tax by the Fund. Shareholders of the Fund are subject to the foregoing risks and costs regardless of whether they had been a shareholder of a closed-end fund involved in a reorganization.

**SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE RISK.** To the extent that the Fund invests a significant percentage of its assets in a single asset class or the securities of issuers within the same country, state, region, industry or sector, an adverse economic, business or political development that affected a particular asset class, region or industry may affect the value of the Fund's investments more than if the Fund were more broadly diversified. A significant exposure makes the Fund more susceptible to any single occurrence and may subject the Fund to greater volatility and market risk than a fund that is more broadly diversified.

**SMALLER COMPANIES RISK.** The stock price of small and/or mid capitalization companies may be more volatile than those of larger companies and therefore the Fund's share price may be more volatile than those of funds that invest a larger percentage of their assets in stocks issued by large capitalization companies. Stock prices of small and/or mid capitalization companies are also generally more vulnerable than those of large capitalization companies to adverse business and economic developments. Securities of small and/or mid capitalization companies may be thinly traded, making it difficult for the Fund to buy and sell them. In addition, small and/or mid capitalization companies are typically less financially stable than larger, more established companies and may reinvest a high proportion of their earnings in their business and may not pay dividends. Small and/or mid capitalization companies may also depend on a small number of essential personnel who may also be less experienced than the management of larger companies, making these companies more vulnerable to experiencing adverse effects due to the loss or inexperience of personnel. Small and/or mid capitalization companies also normally have less diverse product lines than those of large capitalization companies and are more susceptible to adverse developments concerning their products.

**TAX RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH INVESTMENT IN OPTIONS.** The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in options on indexes. The treatment of such derivatives may, in part, be based upon informal guidance issued by the Internal Revenue Service a number of years ago. Although the Fund believes that it is treating such derivatives consistently with current tax law, if the Internal Revenue Service were to disagree, the Fund could lose its status as a RIC. The Fund may also invest a portion of its assets in certain options on an Underlying ETF that may not qualify as "Section 1256 contracts" under Section 1256 of the Code, and disposition of such options will likely result in short-term or long-term capital gains or losses.

If the Fund did not qualify as a RIC for any taxable year and certain relief provisions were not available, the Fund's taxable income would be subject to tax at the Fund level and to a further tax at the Shareholder level when such income is distributed. In such event, in order to re-qualify for taxation as a RIC, the Fund might be required to recognize unrealized gains, pay substantial taxes and interest and make certain distributions. This would cause investors to incur higher tax liabilities than they otherwise would have incurred and would have a negative impact on Fund returns. In such event, the Fund's Board of Trustees may determine to reorganize or close the Fund or materially change the Fund's investment objective and strategies. In the event that the Fund fails to qualify as a RIC, the Fund will promptly notify Shareholders of the implications of that failure.

The Fund has sold call Options that reference property that may vary in value similarly to the property held by the Fund. If the property held and the Options sold are determined to be straddles (offsetting positions), the amount of long-term capital gain available for distribution as a capital gain dividend may be reduced. Because of the loss of long-term capital gains from portfolio investments, in some factual circumstances investors could have a lower after-tax return from investing in the trust than investing directly in the referenced asset.

The Fund may be required to mark some of its positions to market on an annual basis. The sold call options are exchange traded options. Under the Code, certain types of options are required to be treated as if they were sold at the end of each year. Such treatment could cause the Fund to have taxable income without receiving cash. In order to maintain its RIC qualification, the Fund must distribute at least 90% of its income annually. Depending upon the circumstances, some assets may need to be sold to fund the required distributions. This process of recognizing deemed income and selling assets to fund distributions may accelerate the time at which Shareholders receive cash but may reduce the overall return on funds employed.

**TRADING ISSUES RISK.** Trading in Fund shares on the Exchange may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Fund shares on the Exchange is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to the Exchange's "circuit breaker" rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of the Exchange necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged. The Fund may have difficulty maintaining its listing on the Exchange in the event the Fund's assets are small, the Fund does not have enough shareholders, or if the Fund is unable to proceed with creation and/or redemption orders.

UTILITY COMPANIES RISK. The Fund invests significantly in utility companies. Utility companies include companies producing or providing gas, electricity or water. The risks inherent in the utility sector include a variety of factors that may adversely affect the business or operations of utility companies, including: high interest costs associated with capital construction and improvement programs; difficulty in raising adequate capital on reasonable terms in periods of high inflation and unsettled capital markets; governmental regulation of rates that the issuer can charge to customers; costs associated with compliance with, and adjusting to changes to, environmental and other regulations; counterparty risk; effects of economic slowdowns and surplus capacity; increased competition from other providers of utility services; costs associated with the reduced availability of certain types of fuel, occasionally reduced availability and high costs of natural gas for resale, and the effects of energy conservation policies. Some utility companies also face risks associated with the effects of a national energy policy and lengthy delays, and greatly increased costs and other problems, associated with the design, construction, licensing, regulation and operation of nuclear facilities for electric generation, including, among other considerations: the problems associated with the use of radioactive materials and the disposal of radioactive wastes; technological innovations that may render existing plants, equipment or products obsolete; difficulty in obtaining regulatory approval of new technologies; potential impacts of terrorist activities on the utility industry and its customers; and the impact of natural or man-made disasters. Utility companies may also be subject to regulation by various governmental authorities and may be affected by the imposition of special tariffs and changes in tax laws, regulatory policies and accounting standards. Deregulation is subjecting utility companies to greater competition and may adversely affect profitability. As deregulation allows utility companies to diversify outside of their original geographic regions and their traditional lines of business, utility companies may engage in riskier ventures. There is no assurance that regulatory authorities will, in the future, grant rate increases, or that such increases will be adequate to permit the payment of dividends on stocks issued by a utility company.

**VALUATION RISK.** The Fund may hold securities or other assets that may be valued on the basis of factors other than market quotations. This may occur because the asset or security does not trade on a centralized exchange, or in times of market turmoil or reduced liquidity. There are multiple methods that can be used to value a portfolio holding when market quotations are not readily available. The value established for any portfolio holding at a point in time might differ from what would be produced using a different methodology or if it had been priced using market quotations. Portfolio holdings that are valued using techniques other than market quotations, including "fair valued" assets or securities, may be subject to greater fluctuation in their valuations from one day to the next than if market quotations were used. In addition, there is no assurance that the Fund could sell or close out a portfolio position for the value established for it at any time, and it is possible that the Fund would incur a loss because a portfolio position is sold or closed out at a discount to the valuation established by the Fund at that time. The Fund's ability to value investments may be impacted by technological issues or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.

### **Non-Principal Risks**

**BORROWING AND LEVERAGE RISK**. If the Fund borrows money, it must pay interest and other fees, which may reduce the Fund's returns. Any such borrowings are intended to be temporary. However, under certain market conditions, including periods of decreased liquidity, such borrowings might be outstanding for longer periods of time. As prescribed by the 1940 Act, the

Fund will be required to maintain specified asset coverage of at least 300% with respect to any bank borrowing immediately following such borrowing and at all times thereafter. The Fund may be required to dispose of assets on unfavorable terms if market fluctuations or other factors reduce the Fund's asset coverage to less than the prescribed amount.

DEFERRED TAX LIABILITY RISK. Cash distributions from an MLP to the Fund that exceed the Fund's allocable share of the MLP's taxable income are considered return of capital that reduce the Fund's adjusted tax basis in the Fund's MLP equity securities. Such distributions are not ordinarily subject to tax at the time of distribution unless the distributions exceed the Fund's adjusted tax basis in the Fund's MLP equity securities. The reductions in the Fund's adjusted tax basis in the MLP will increase the amount of gain (or decrease the amount of loss) recognized by the Fund on a subsequent sale of the MLP equity securities. The Fund will accrue deferred income taxes for any future tax liability associated with: (i) that portion of MLP distributions considered to be a tax-deferred return of capital; and (ii) capital appreciation of its investments. Upon the sale of an MLP security, the Fund may be liable for previously deferred taxes. The Fund's accrued deferred tax liability will be reflected each day in the Fund's net asset value ("NAV"). Increases in deferred tax liability will decrease NAV. Conversely, decreases in deferred liability will increase NAV. The Fund will rely to some extent on information provided by the MLPs, which is not necessarily timely, to estimate deferred tax liability for purposes of financial statement reporting and determining the NAV. From time to time, the Fund will modify the estimates or assumptions regarding the Fund's deferred tax liability as new information becomes available. The Fund's estimates regarding its deferred tax liability are made in good faith; however, the daily estimate of the Fund's deferred tax liability used to calculate the Fund's NAV could vary significantly from the Fund's actual tax liability. The Fund will generally compute deferred income taxes based on the federal income tax rate applicable to corporations and an assumed rate attributable to state taxes.

**DEPENDENCE ON KEY PERSONNEL RISK.** The Sub-Advisor is dependent upon the experience and expertise of the Fund's portfolio managers in providing advisory services with respect to the Fund's investments. If the Sub-Advisor were to lose the services of any of these portfolio managers, its ability to service the Fund could be adversely affected. There can be no assurance that a suitable replacement could be found for any of the portfolio managers in the event of their death, resignation, retirement or inability to act on behalf of the Sub-Advisor.

**FAILURE TO QUALIFY AS A REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANY RISK.** If, in any year, the Fund fails to qualify as a regulated investment company under the applicable tax laws, the Fund would be taxed as an ordinary corporation. In such circumstances, the Fund's taxable income would be subject to tax at the Fund level and to a further tax at the shareholder level when such income is distributed and the Fund could be required to recognize unrealized gains, pay substantial taxes and interest and make substantial distributions before requalifying as a regulated investment company that is accorded special tax treatment. This would cause investors to incur higher tax liabilities than they otherwise would have incurred and would have a negative impact on Fund returns. If the Fund fails to qualify as a regulated investment company, distributions to the Fund's shareholders generally would be eligible (i) for treatment as qualified dividend income in the case of individual shareholders and (ii) for the dividends received deduction in the case of corporate shareholders. See "Federal Tax Matters."

**ISSUER SPECIFIC CHANGES RISK.** The value of an individual security or particular type of security can be more volatile than the market as a whole and can perform differently from the value of the market as a whole.

**LEGISLATION/LITIGATION RISK.** From time to time, various legislative initiatives are proposed in the United States and abroad, which may have a negative impact on certain companies in which the Fund invests. In addition, litigation regarding any of the issuers of the securities owned by the Fund, or industries represented by these issuers, may negatively impact the value of the securities. Such legislation or litigation may cause the Fund to lose value or may result in higher portfolio turnover if the Advisor determines to sell such a holding.

# **Fund Organization**

The Fund is a series of the Trust, an investment company registered under the 1940 Act. The Fund is treated as a separate fund with its own investment objective and policies. The Trust is organized as a Massachusetts business trust. The Board is responsible for the overall management and direction of the Trust. The Board elects the Trust's officers and approves all significant agreements, including those with the Advisor, Sub-Advisor, distributor, custodian and fund administrative and accounting agent.

# **Management of the Fund**

First Trust Advisors L.P., 120 East Liberty Drive, Wheaton, Illinois 60187, is the investment advisor to the Fund. In this capacity, First Trust is responsible for the overseeing the Sub-Advisor in the investment of the Fund's assets, managing the Fund's business affairs and providing certain clerical, bookkeeping and other administrative services.

First Trust is a limited partnership with one limited partner, Grace Partners of DuPage L.P., and one general partner, The Charger Corporation. Grace Partners of DuPage L.P. is a limited partnership with one general partner, The Charger Corporation, and a number of limited partners. The Charger Corporation is an Illinois corporation controlled by James A. Bowen, the Chief Executive Officer of First Trust. First Trust discharges its responsibilities subject to the policies of the Fund.

First Trust serves as advisor or sub-advisor for 12 mutual fund portfolios, 10 exchange-traded funds consisting of 288 series and 6 closed-end funds. It is also the portfolio supervisor of certain unit investment trusts sponsored by First Trust Portfolios L.P. ("FTP"), an affiliate of First Trust, 120 East Liberty Drive, Wheaton, Illinois 60187. FTP specializes in the underwriting, trading and distribution of unit investment trusts and other securities. FTP is the principal underwriter of the shares of the Fund.

The Trust, on behalf of the Fund, and First Trust have retained Energy Income Partners, LLC located at 10 Wright Street, Westport, Connecticut 06880 to serve as the Fund's investment sub-advisor pursuant to an investment sub-advisory agreement (the "Sub-Advisory Agreement"). In this capacity, Energy Income Partners is responsible for the selection and on-going monitoring of the securities in the Fund's investment portfolio. Energy Income Partners is a registered investment advisor founded in October 2003 by James J. Murchie, Eva Pao and Linda Longville to provide professional asset management services in the energy sector. In addition to serving as Sub-Advisor to the Fund, Energy Income Partners serves as the investment manager to two privately placed funds, one registered investment company, separately managed accounts and provides a model portfolio to unified managed accounts. Energy Income Partners also serves as the sub-advisor to three actively managed ETFs, First Trust EIP Carbon Impact ETF (NYSE Arca: ECLN), First Trust North American Energy Infrastructure Fund (NYSE Arca: EMLP) and FT Energy Income Partners Strategy ETF (NYSE Arca: EIPX); and a sleeve of First Trust Multi-Income Allocation Portfolio, a series of the First Trust Variable Insurance Trust. Energy Income Partners primarily focuses on portfolio companies that operate infrastructure assets such as pipelines, storage and terminals that receive fee-based or regulated income from their customers. As of January 31, 2025, Energy Income Partners served as investment advisor to investment portfolios with \$5.6 billion in assets. First Trust Capital Partners, LLC, an affiliate of First Trust, owns, through a wholly-owned subsidiary, a 15% ownership interest in each of the Energy Income Partners and EIP Partners, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and affiliate of Energy Income Partners.

James J. Murchie, Eva Pao and John K. Tysseland are the Fund's portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's investment portfolio.

- James J. Murchie is a Co-Founder, Chief Executive Officer, Co-Portfolio Manager and a Principal of Energy Income Partners. After founding Energy Income Partners in October 2003, Mr. Murchie and the Energy Income Partners investment team joined Pequot Capital Management Inc. ("Pequot Capital") in December 2004. In August 2006, Mr. Murchie and the Energy Income Partners investment team left Pequot Capital and re-established Energy Income Partners. Prior to founding Energy Income Partners, Mr. Murchie was a Portfolio Manager at Lawhill Capital Partners, LLC ("Lawhill Capital"), a long/short equity hedge fund investing in commodities and equities in the energy and basic industry sectors. Before Lawhill Capital, Mr. Murchie was a Managing Director at Tiger Management, LLC, where his primary responsibility was managing a portfolio of investments in commodities and related equities. Mr. Murchie was also a Principal at Sanford C. Bernstein. He began his career at British Petroleum, PLC. Mr. Murchie holds a BA in history and anthropology from Rice University and received his MA from Harvard University.
- Eva Pao is a Co-Founder, Co-Portfolio Manager and Principal of Energy Income Partners. She is a Co-founder of Energy Income Partners since inception in 2003. From 2005 to mid-2006, Ms. Pao joined Pequot Capital Management during Energy Income Partners' affiliation with Pequot. Prior to Harvard Business School, Ms. Pao was a Manager at Enron Corp where she managed a portfolio in Canadian oil and gas equities for Enron's internal hedge fund that specialized in energy-related equities and managed a natural gas trading book. Ms. Pao received her undergraduate degree at Rice University and received her MBA from Harvard Business School.
- John K. Tysseland is a Co-Portfolio Manager and Principal of Energy Income Partners. Prior to joining Energy Income Partners, Mr. Tysseland worked at Citi Research most currently serving as a Managing Director where he covered midstream energy companies and MLPs. From 1998 to 2005, he worked at Raymond James & Associates as a Vice President who covered the oilfield service industry and established the firm's initial coverage

of MLPs in 2001. Prior to that, he was an Equity Trader at Momentum Securities from 1997 to 1998 and an Assistant Executive Director at Sumar Enterprises from 1996 to 1997. Mr. Tysseland graduated from The University of Texas at Austin with a BA in economics.

For additional information concerning First Trust, the Sub-Advisor and the portfolio managers, including a description of the services provided to the Fund, see the Fund's SAI. Additional information about the portfolio managers' compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio managers and the portfolio managers' ownership of shares in the Fund is provided in the SAI.

### **Management Fee**

Pursuant to an investment management agreement between First Trust and the Trust, on behalf of the Fund (the "Investment Management Agreement"), First Trust oversees Energy Income Partners' management of the Fund's assets and pays Energy Income Partners for its services as Sub-Advisor. First Trust is paid an annual unitary management feeby the Fund equal to 1.10% of the Fund's average daily net assets and is responsible for the Fund's expenses, including the cost of transfer agency, custody, fund administration, legal, audit and other services, but excluding fee payments under the Investment Management Agreement, interest, taxes, acquired fund fees and expenses, if any, brokerage commissions and other expenses connected with the execution of portfolio transactions, distribution and service fees payable pursuant to a Rule 12b-1 plan, if any, and extraordinary expenses.

As approved by the Trust's Board of Trustees, the management fee paid to First Trust Advisors L.P. will be reduced at certain levels of Fund net assets ("breakpoints"). See the Fund's Statement of Additional Information for more information on the breakpoints.

A discussion regarding the Board's approval of the Investment Management Agreement and Sub-Advisory Agreement is available in the Fund's Semi-Annual Financial Statements and Other Information for the period ended May 31, 2024.

# **How to Buy and Sell Shares**

Most investors buy and sell shares of the Fund in secondary market transactions through brokers. Shares of the Fund are listed for trading on the secondary market on one or more national securities exchanges. Shares can be bought and sold throughout the trading day like other publicly traded shares. There is no minimum investment when buying shares on the Exchange. Although shares are generally purchased and sold in "round lots" of 100 shares, brokerage firms typically permit investors to purchase or sell shares in smaller "odd lots," at no per-share price differential. When buying or selling shares through a broker, investors should expect to pay brokerage commissions, investors may receive less than the net asset value of the shares because shares are bought and sold at market prices rather than at net asset value, and investors may pay some or all of the bid-ask spread for each transaction (purchase or sale) of Fund shares. Share prices are reported in dollars and cents per share.

Under normal circumstances, the Fund will pay out redemption proceeds to a redeeming authorized participant within one day after the authorized participant's redemption request is received, in accordance with the process set forth in the Fund's SAI and in the agreement between the authorized participant and the Fund's distributor. However, the Fund reserves the right, including under stressed market conditions, to take up to seven days after the receipt of a redemption request to pay an authorized participant, all as permitted by the 1940 Act. If the Fund has foreign investments in a country where a local market holiday, or series of consecutive holidays, or the extended delivery cycles for transferring foreign investments to redeeming authorized participants prevents the Fund from delivering such foreign investments to an authorized participant in response to a redemption request, the Fund may take up to 15 days after the receipt of the redemption request to deliver such investments to the authorized participant.

For purposes of the 1940 Act, the Fund is treated as a registered investment company, and the acquisition of shares by other registered investment companies and companies relying on Sections 3(c)(1) and 3(c)(7) of the 1940 Act is subject to the restrictions of Section 12(d)(1) of the 1940 Act and the related rules and interpretations.

### **Book Entry**

Shares are held in book-entry form, which means that no share certificates are issued. The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") or its nominee is the record owner of all outstanding shares of the Fund and is recognized as the owner of all shares for all purposes.

Investors owning shares are beneficial owners as shown on the records of DTC or its participants. DTC serves as the securities depository for all shares. Participants in DTC include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other institutions that directly or indirectly maintain a custodial relationship with DTC. As a beneficial owner of shares, you are not entitled to receive physical delivery of share certificates or to have shares registered in your name, and you are not considered a registered owner of shares. Therefore, to exercise any right as an owner of shares, you must rely upon the procedures of DTC and its participants. These procedures are the same as those that apply to any other stocks that you hold in book-entry or "street name" form.

### **Share Trading Prices**

The trading price of shares of the Fund on the secondary market is based on market price and may differ from the Fund's daily net asset value and can be affected by market forces of supply and demand, economic conditions and other factors.

### Frequent Purchases and Redemptions of the Fund's Shares

The Fund imposes no restrictions on the frequency of purchases and redemptions ("market timing"). In determining not to approve a written, established policy, the Board evaluated the risks of market timing activities by the Fund's shareholders. The Board considered that the Fund's shares can only be purchased and redeemed directly from the Fund in Creation Units by broker-dealers and large institutional investors that have entered into participation agreements (i.e., authorized participants ("APs")) and that the vast majority of trading in the Fund's shares occurs on the secondary market. Because the secondary market trades do not involve the Fund directly, it is unlikely those trades would cause many of the harmful effects of market timing, including dilution, disruption of portfolio management, increases in the Fund's trading costs and the realization of capital gains. With respect to trades directly with the Fund, to the extent effected in-kind (i.e., for securities), those trades do not cause any of the harmful effects that may result from frequent cash trades. To the extent that the Fund may effect the purchase or redemption of Creation Units in exchange wholly or partially for cash, the Board noted that such trades could result in dilution to the Fund and increased transaction costs, which could negatively impact the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. However, the Board noted that direct trading by APs is critical to ensuring that the shares trade at or close to net asset value. In addition, the Fund imposes fixed and variable transaction fees on purchases and redemptions of Creation Units to cover the custodial and other costs incurred by the Fund in effecting trades. Finally, the Advisor monitors purchase and redemption orders from APs for patterns of abusive trading and the Fund reserves the right to not accept orders from APs that the Advisor has determined may be disruptive to the management of the Fund.

# **Dividends, Distributions and Taxes**

Dividends from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and paid monthly by the Fund. The Fund distributes its net realized capital gains, if any, to shareholders at least annually.

Due to the tax treatment under current law of cash distributions made by MLPs in which the Fund invests, a portion of the distributions the Fund anticipates making may consist of tax-deferred return of capital. To the extent that distributions exceed such Fund's earnings and profits, distributions are generally not treated as taxable income for the investor. Instead, Fund shareholders will experience a reduction in the basis of their shares, which may increase the capital gain or reduce capital loss, realized upon the sale of such shares. Thus, if the Fund's capital was the source of a distribution and the payment amounted to a return of capital, the Fund would be required to provide a written notice to that effect. A "return of capital" represents a return on a shareholder's original investment in the Fund, and should not be confused with a dividend from earnings and profits. Upon the sale of Fund shares, shareholders generally will recognize capital gain or loss measured by the difference between the sale proceeds received by the shareholder and the shareholder's federal income tax basis in shares sold, as adjusted to reflect return of capital. Any capital returned to shareholders through distributions will be distributed after payments of Fund fees and expenses.

Distributions in cash may be reinvested automatically in additional whole shares only if the broker through whom you purchased shares makes such option available. Such shares will generally be reinvested by the broker based upon the market price of those shares and investors may be subject to customary brokerage commissions charged by the broker.

### **Federal Tax Matters**

This section summarizes some of the main U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning shares of the Fund. This section is current as of the date of this prospectus. Tax laws and interpretations change frequently, and these summaries do not describe all of the tax consequences to all taxpayers. For example, these summaries generally do not describe your situation if you are

a corporation, a non-U.S. person, a broker-dealer, or other investor with special circumstances. In addition, this section does not describe your state, local or non-U.S. tax consequences.

This federal income tax summary is based in part on the advice of counsel to the Fund. The Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") could disagree with any conclusions set forth in this section. The following disclosure may not be sufficient for you to use for the purpose of avoiding penalties under federal tax law.

As with any investment, you should seek advice based on your individual circumstances from your own tax advisor.

### **Fund Status**

The Fund intends to qualify as a "regulated investment company" (a "RIC") under the federal tax laws. If the Fund qualifies as a RIC and distributes its income as required by the tax law, the Fund generally will not pay federal income taxes. An adverse federal income tax audit of a partnership that the Fund invests in could result in the Fund being required to pay federal income tax or pay a deficiency dividend (without having received additional cash).

### **Distributions**

The Fund's distributions are generally taxable. After the end of each year, you will receive a tax statement that separates the distributions of the Fund into two categories, ordinary income distributions and capital gains dividends. The presence of covered call options in the portfolio may reduce the amount of dividends that would otherwise be treated as capital gain dividends. Ordinary income distributions are generally taxed at your ordinary tax rate, however, as further discussed below, certain ordinary income distributions received from the Fund may be taxed at the capital gains tax rates. Generally, you will treat all capital gain dividends as long-term capital gains regardless of how long you have owned your shares.

To determine your actual tax liability for your capital gain dividends, you must calculate your total net capital gain or loss for the tax year after considering all of your other taxable transactions, as described below. In addition, the Fund may make distributions that represent a return of capital for tax purposes and thus will generally not be taxable to you; however, such distributions may reduce your tax basis in your shares, which could result in you having to pay higher taxes in the future when shares are sold, even if you sell the shares at a loss from your original investment. A "return of capital" is a return, in whole or in part, of the funds that you previously invested in the Fund. A return of capital distribution should not be considered part of a Fund's dividend yield or total return of an investment in Fund shares. The tax status of your distributions from the Fund is not affected by whether you reinvest your distributions in additional shares or receive them in cash. The tax laws may require you to treat distributions made to you in January as if you had received them on December 31 of the previous year.

Income from the Fund may also be subject to a 3.8% "Medicare tax." This tax generally applies to your net investment income if your adjusted gross income exceeds certain threshold amounts, which are \$250,000 in the case of married couples filing joint returns and \$200,000 in the case of single individuals.

#### **Dividends Received Deduction**

A corporation that owns shares generally will not be entitled to the dividends received deduction with respect to many dividends received from the Fund because the dividends received deduction is generally not available for distributions from RICs. However, certain ordinary income dividends on shares that are attributable to qualifying dividends received by the Fund from certain corporations may be reported by the Fund as being eligible for the dividends received deduction. The presence of covered call options in the portfolio may reduce the amount of dividends that are treated as qualifying dividends.

### **Capital Gains and Lossesand Certain Ordinary Income Dividends**

If you are an individual, the maximum marginal stated federal tax rate for net capital gain is generally 20% (15% or 0% for taxpayers with taxable incomes below certain thresholds). Some capital gains, including some portion of your capital gain dividends may be taxed at a higher maximum stated tax rate. Some portion of your capital gain dividends may be attributable to the Fund's interest in a master limited partnership which may be subject to a maximum marginal stated federal tax rate of 28%, rather than the rates set forth above. In the case of capital gain dividends, the determination of which portion of the capital gain dividend, if any, is subject to the 28% tax rate, will be made based on rules prescribed by the United States Treasury. Capital gains may also be subject to the Medicare tax described above.

Net capital gain equals net long-term capital gain minus net short-term capital loss for the taxable year. Capital gain or loss is long-term if the holding period for the asset is more than one year and is short-term if the holding period for the asset is one year or less. You must exclude the date you purchase your shares to determine your holding period. However, if you receive a capital gain dividend from the Fund and sell your share at a loss after holding it for six months or less, the loss will be

recharacterized as long-term capital loss to the extent of the capital gain dividend received. The tax rates for capital gains realized from assets held for one year or less are generally the same as for ordinary income. The Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, treats certain capital gains as ordinary income in special situations.

An election may be available to you to defer recognition of the gain attributable to a capital gain dividend if you make certain qualifying investments within a limited time. You should talk to your tax advisor about the availability of this deferral election and its requirements.

Ordinary income dividends received by an individual shareholder from a RIC such as the Fund are generally taxed at the same rates that apply to net capital gain (as discussed above), provided certain holding period requirements are satisfied and provided the dividends are attributable to qualifying dividends received by the Fund itself. The presence of covered call options in the portfolio may reduce the amount of dividends that are eligible for capital gains rates. The Fund will provide notice to its shareholders of the amount of any distribution which may be taken into account as a dividend which is eligible for the capital gains tax rates.

### **Options**

The Fund intends to treat any income it may derive from the options as "qualifying income" under the provisions of the Code applicable to RICs. In addition, based upon language in the legislative history, the Fund intends to treat the issuer of the options as the issuer of the referenced asset, which, assuming the referenced asset qualifies as a RIC, would allow the trust to qualify for special rules in the RIC diversification requirements. If the referenced asset is an index, the Fund intends to treat the issuer of the options as the issuer of the securities comprising the index. If the income is not qualifying income or the issuer of the options is not appropriately the referenced asset, the Fund could lose its own status as a RIC if the positions reflected by such options are large enough.

The Fund has sold call Options that reference property that may vary in value similarly to the property held by the Fund. If the property held and the Options sold are determined to be straddles (offsetting positions), the amount of long-term capital gain available for distribution as a capital gain dividend may be reduced. Because of the loss of long-term capital gains from portfolio investments, in some factual circumstances investors could have a lower after-tax return from investing in the trust than investing directly in the referenced asset.

The Fund may be required to mark some of its positions to market on an annual basis. The sold call options are exchange traded options. Under the Code, certain types of options are required to be treated as if they were sold at the end of each year. Such treatment could cause the Fund to have taxable income without receiving cash. In order to maintain its RIC qualification, the Fund must distribute at least 90% of its income annually. Depending upon the circumstances, some assets may need to be sold to fund the required distributions. This process of recognizing deemed income and selling assets to fund distributions may accelerate the time at which Shareholders receive cash but may reduce the overall return on funds employed.

### **Straddles**

The Fund may sell call options that have a value that varies inversely with assets in the Fund's portfolio. If the assets held and the options sold are determined to be straddles (offsetting positions), the amount of long-term capital gain available for distribution as a capital gain dividend may be reduced. Because of the potential loss of long-term capital gains from portfolio investments, in some factual circumstances investors could have a lower after-tax return from investing in the Fund than investing directly in the referenced asset.

### Sale of Shares

If you sell or redeem your shares, you will generally recognize a taxable gain or loss. To determine the amount of this gain or loss, you must subtract your tax basis in your shares from the amount you receive in the transaction. Your tax basis in your shares is generally equal to the cost of your shares, generally including brokerage fees, if any. In some cases, however, you may have to adjust your tax basis after you purchase your shares. An election may be available to you to defer recognition of capital gain if you make certain qualifying investments within a limited time. You should talk to your tax advisor about the availability of this deferral election and its requirements.

# Taxes on Purchase and Redemption of Creation Units

If you exchange securities for Creation Units, you will generally recognize a gain or a loss. The gain or loss will be equal to the difference between the market value of the Creation Units at the time and your aggregate basis in the securities surrendered and the cash component paid. If you exchange Creation Units for securities, you will generally recognize a gain or loss equal

to the difference between your basis in the Creation Units and the aggregate market value of the securities received and the cash redemption amount. The IRS, however, may assert that a loss realized upon an exchange of securities for Creation Units or Creation Units for securities cannot be deducted currently under the rules governing "wash sales," or on the basis that there has been no significant change in economic position.

### **Treatment of Fund Expenses**

Expenses incurred and deducted by the Fund will generally not be treated as income taxable to you.

#### Non-U.S. Tax Credit

Because the Fund invests in non-U.S. securities, the tax statement that you receive may include an item showing non-U.S. taxes the Fund paid to other countries. In this case, dividends taxed to you will include your share of the taxes the Fund paid to other countries. You may be able to deduct or receive a tax credit for your share of these taxes.

### Non-U.S. Investors

If you are a non-U.S. investor (*i.e.*, an investor other than a U.S. citizen or resident or a U.S. corporation, partnership, estate or trust), you should be aware that, generally, subject to applicable tax treaties, distributions from the Fund will be characterized as dividends for federal income tax purposes (other than dividends which the Fund properly reports as capital gain dividends) and will be subject to U.S. federal income taxes, including withholding taxes, subject to certain exceptions described below. However, distributions received by a non-U.S. investor from the Fund that are properly reported by the Fund as capital gain dividends may not be subject to U.S. federal income taxes, including withholding taxes, provided that the Fund makes certain elections and certain other conditions are met. Distributions from the Fund that are properly reported by the Fund as an interest-related dividend attributable to certain interest income received by the Fund or as a short-term capital gain dividend attributable to certain net short-term capital gain income received by the Fund may not be subject to U.S. federal income taxes, including withholding taxes when received by certain non-U.S. investors, provided that the Fund makes certain elections and certain other conditions are met. For tax years after December 31, 2022, amounts paid to or recognized by a non-U.S. affiliate that are excluded from tax under the portfolio interest, capital gain dividends, short-term capital gains or tax-exempt interest dividend exceptions or applicable treaties, may be taken into consideration in determining whether a corporation is an "applicable corporation" subject to a 15% minimum tax on adjusted financial statement income.

Distributions may be subject to a U.S. withholding tax of 30% in the case of distributions to (i) certain non-U.S. financial institutions that have not entered into an agreement with the U.S. Treasury to collect and disclose certain information and are not resident in a jurisdiction that has entered into such an agreement with the U.S. Treasury and (ii) certain other non-U.S. entities that do not provide certain certifications and information about the entity's U.S. owners. This withholding tax is also currently scheduled to apply to the gross proceeds from the disposition of securities that produce U.S. source interest or dividends. However, proposed regulations may eliminate the requirement to withhold on payments of gross proceeds from dispositions.

### **Investments in Certain Non-U.S. Corporations**

If the Fund holds an equity interest in any "passive foreign investment companies" ("PFICs"), which are generally certain non-U.S. corporations that receive at least 75% of their annual gross income from passive sources (such as interest, dividends, certain rents and royalties or capital gains) or that hold at least 50% of their assets in investments producing such passive income, the Fund could be subject to U.S. federal income tax and additional interest charges on gains and certain distributions with respect to those equity interests, even if all the income or gain is timely distributed to its shareholders. The Fund will not be able to pass through to its shareholders any credit or deduction for such taxes. The Fund may be able to make an election that could ameliorate these adverse tax consequences. In this case, the Fund would recognize as ordinary income any increase in the value of such PFIC shares, and as ordinary loss any decrease in such value to the extent it did not exceed prior increases included in income. Under this election, the Fund might be required to recognize in a year income in excess of its distributions from PFICs and its proceeds from dispositions of PFIC stock during that year, and such income would nevertheless be subject to the distribution requirement and would be taken into account for purposes of the 4% excise tax. Dividends paid by PFICs are not treated as qualified dividend income.

# **Distribution Plan**

FTP serves as the distributor of Creation Units for the Fund on an agency basis. FTP does not maintain a secondary market in shares.

The Board has adopted a Distribution and Service Plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act. In accordance with the Rule 12b-1 plan, the Fund is authorized to pay an amount up to 0.25% of its average daily net assets each year to reimburse FTP for amounts expended to finance activities primarily intended to result in the sale of Creation Units or the provision of investor services. FTP may also use this amount to compensate securities dealers or other persons that are APs for providing distribution assistance, including broker-dealer and shareholder support and educational and promotional services.

The Fund does not currently pay 12b-1 fees, and pursuant to a contractual arrangement, the Fund will not pay 12b-1 fees any time before May 1, 2026. However, in the event 12b-1 fees are charged in the future, because these fees are paid out of the Fund's assets, over time these fees will increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than certain other types of sales charges.

### **Net Asset Value**

The Fund's net asset value ("NAV") is determined as of the close of regular trading (normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time) on each day the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") is open for trading. If the NYSE closes early on a valuation day, the Fund's NAV will be determined as of that time. The Fund's NAV is calculated by dividing the value of the net assets of the Fund (i.e., the value of its total assets less total liabilities) by the total number of outstanding shares of the Fund, generally rounded to the nearest cent.

Section 2(a)(41) of the 1940 Act provides that when a market quotation is readily available for a fund's portfolio investment, it must be valued at the market value. Rule 2a-5 under the 1940 Act ("Rule 2a-5") defines a readily available market quotation as "a quoted price (unadjusted) in active markets for identical investments that the fund can access at the measurement date, provided that a quotation will not be readily available if it is not reliable." If a market quotation is not "readily available," then the portfolio investment must be fair valued as determined in good faith by a fund's board of trustees.

Rule 2a-5 permits a fund's board of trustees to designate the fund's investment adviser as its "valuation designee" to perform fair value determinations, subject to certain conditions. Accordingly, the Fund's Board has designated First Trust as its valuation designee (the "Valuation Designee") pursuant to Rule 2a-5 and has directed the Valuation Designee to perform the functions required in Rule 2a-5(a) subject to the requirements of Rule 2a-5(b) on behalf of all portfolio investments of the Fund, subject to the Board's oversight. First Trust has established a pricing committee (the "Pricing Committee") to assist in the administration of the duties of the Valuation Designee. The Valuation Designee has adopted valuation procedures for the First Trust Funds (the "Valuation Procedures"), a brief summary of which is set forth below.

The Pricing Committee has identified certain portfolio investments that are routinely categorized as having a readily available market quotation. The market value of an investment with a readily available market quotation is typically determined on the basis of official closing prices or last reported sale prices or equivalent price, although this can vary based on investment type and/or the availability of such prices.

The Pricing Committee has also identified certain portfolio investments that are routinely categorized as fair valued investments. In general, for such investments, the Fund's accounting agent will obtain all pricing data for use in valuing such investments from a pricing service provider approved by the Pricing Committee (each, a "Pricing Service Provider"), subject to the oversight of the Pricing Committee. Pricing Service Providers typically value non-exchange-traded instruments utilizing a range of market-based inputs and assumptions. For example, when available, Pricing Service Providers may utilize inputs such as benchmark yields, reported trades, broker-dealer quotes, spreads, and transactions for comparable instruments. In pricing certain instruments, a Pricing Service Provider may consider information about an instrument's issuer or market activity. Pricing Service Provider valuations of non-exchange-traded instruments generally represent the service's good faith opinion as to what the holder of an instrument would receive in an orderly transaction for an institutional round lot position under current market conditions. Certain exchange-traded options, such as FLEX Options, are typically valued using a model-based price provided by a Pricing Service Provider.

Portfolio investments trading on foreign exchanges or over-the-counter markets that close prior to the close of the NYSE may be fair valued using a systematic fair valuation model provided by a Pricing Service Provider. If these foreign securities meet certain criteria in relation to the valuation model, their valuation is systematically adjusted to reflect the impact of movement in the U.S. market after the close of certain foreign markets.

If no price is available from a Pricing Service Provider or if the Pricing Committee has reason to question the accuracy or the reliability of a price supplied for a portfolio investment or the use of amortized cost, the Pricing Committee will determine the fair value of such portfolio investment in a manner that it believes most appropriately reflects the fair value of the portfolio

investment on the valuation date (a "Special Fair Value Pricing Situation"). In a Special Fair Value Pricing Situation, the Pricing Committee will determine a fair value price subject to the process outlined in the Valuation Procedures and based on a consideration of all available information to the Pricing Committee at the time of the determination.

Additionally, for foreign securities, if an extraordinary market event occurs between the time the last "current" market quotation is available for a security in the Fund's portfolio and the time the Fund's NAV is determined that calls into doubt whether that earlier market quotation represents fair value at the time the Fund's NAV is determined, the Pricing Committee will determine the fair valuation as set forth in the Valuation Procedures.

Fair value represents a good faith approximation of the value of a portfolio investment and is the amount the Fund might reasonably expect to receive from the current sale of that investment in an arm's-length transaction. Valuing the Fund's investments using fair value pricing will result in prices that may differ from current market valuations, if any, and that may not be the prices at which those investments could have been sold during the period in which the particular fair values were used. While the Valuation Procedures and Valuation Designee's processes are intended to result in the Fund's NAV calculation that fairly reflects the values as of the time of pricing, the fair value determined for a portfolio instrument may be materially different from the value that could be realized upon the sale of that instrument.

Foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate of such currencies against the U.S. dollar as provided by a Pricing Service Provider. All assets denominated in foreign currencies will be converted into U.S. dollars at the exchange rates in effect at the time of valuation.

# **Fund Service Providers**

The Bank of New York Mellon, 240 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10286, acts as the administrator, custodian and fund accounting and transfer agent for the Fund. Chapman and Cutler LLP, 320 South Canal Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606, serves as legal counsel to the Fund.

# **Premium/Discount Information**

Information showing the number of days the market price of the Fund's shares was greater (at a premium) and less (at a discount) than the Fund's net asset value for the most recently completed year, and the most recently completed calendar quarters since that year (or life of the Fund, if shorter), is available at http://www.ftportfolios.com/Retail/etf/home.aspx.

# **Financial Highlights**

The financial highlights table is intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects financial results for a single share of the Fund. The financial history shown below prior to the consummation of the Mergers on May 6, 2024 reflects the financial history of the Predecessor Fund. The total returns represent the rate that an investor would have earned (or lost) on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). The information for the fiscal years indicated has been derived from financial statements audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Form N-CSR dated November 30, 2024 and is incorporated by reference in the Fund's SAI, which is available upon request.

# First Trust Exchange-Traded Fund VIII

# Financial Highlights

For a share outstanding throughout each period

FT Energy Income Partners Enhanced Income ETF (EIPI)

|  | Year Ended November 30, |                      |     |                     |     |                     |     |                     |     |                     |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------|-----|---------------------|-----|---------------------|-----|---------------------|-----|---------------------|
|  |                         | 2024 <sup>(a)</sup>  | 2   | 2023 <sup>(a)</sup> | 2   | 2022 <sup>(a)</sup> | 2   | 2021 <sup>(a)</sup> | 2   | 2020 <sup>(a)</sup> |
| Net asset value, beginning of period   | \$                      | 17.57                | \$  | 17.92               | \$  | 14.63               | \$  | 12.47               | \$  | 16.84               |
| Income from investment operations:   |                         |                      |     |                     |     |                     |     |                     |     |                     |
| Net investment income (loss)   |                         | 0.31 <sup>(b)</sup>  |     | $(0.01)^{(b)}$      |     | 0.06                |     | 0.16                |     | 0.03                |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)  |                         | 4.51                 |     | 0.72                |     | 3.84                |     | 2.68                |     | (3.43)              |
| Total from investment operations   |                         | 4.82                 |     | 0.71                |     | 3.90                |     | 2.84                |     | (3.40)              |
| Distributions paid to shareholders from:   |                         |                      |     |                     |     |                     |     |                     |     |                     |
| Net investment income  |                         | (0.44)               |     | _                   |     | (0.17)              |     | (0.18)              |     | (0.46)              |
| Net realized gain  |                         | (1.09)               |     | (1.06)              |     | (0.37)              |     | _                   |     | _                   |
| Return of capital  |                         | _                    |     | _                   |     | (0.21)              |     | (0.57)              |     | (0.53)              |
| Total distributions  |                         | (1.53)               |     | (1.06)              |     | (0.75)              |     | (0.75)              |     | (0.99)              |
| Common Share repurchases   |                         | _                    |     | 0.00 <sup>(c)</sup> |     | 0.14                |     | 0.07                |     | 0.02                |
| Net asset value, end of period   | \$                      | 20.86                | \$  | 17.57               | \$  | 17.92               | \$  | 14.63               | \$  | 12.47               |
| Total return <sup>(d)</sup>  |                         | 29.00%               |     | 5.20%               |     | 29.10%              |     | 24.46%              |     | (19.31)%            |
| Ratios to average net assets/supplemental data:  |                         |                      |     |                     |     |                     |     |                     |     |                     |
| Net assets, end of period (in 000's)   | \$1,                    | ,005,321             | \$2 | 75,227              | \$2 | 81,208              | \$2 | 43,865              | \$2 | 216,439             |
| Ratio of total expenses to average net assets  |                         | 1.45% <sup>(e)</sup> |     | 3.06%               |     | 2.03%               |     | 1.70%               |     | 2.04%               |
| Ratio of total expenses to average net assets excluding interest expense and fees on loans |                         | 1.19% <sup>(e)</sup> |     | 1.47%               |     | 1.45%               |     | 1.45%               |     | 1.52%               |
| Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets                                |                         | 1.64% <sup>(e)</sup> |     | (0.09)%             |     | 0.36%               |     | 0.99%               |     | 0.24%               |
| Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(f)</sup>   |                         | 114%                 |     | 66%                 |     | 60%                 |     | 73%                 |     | 80%                 |

#### Year Ended November 30,

|   | 2024 <sup>(a)</sup> | 2023 <sup>(a)</sup> | 2022 <sup>(a)</sup> | 2021 <sup>(a)</sup> | 2020 <sup>(a)</sup> |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Indebtedness:   |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Total loans outstanding (in 000's)                        | \$-                 | \$70,300            | \$70,300            | \$62,800            | \$55,300            |
| Asset coverage per \$1,000 of indebtedness <sup>(g)</sup> | \$-                 | \$ 4,915            | \$ 5,000            | \$ 4,883            | \$ 4,914            |

- (a) Results for periods prior to May 3, 2024 are for First Trust Energy Infrastructure Fund ("FIF").
- (b) Based on average shares outstanding.
- (c) Amount represents less than \$0.01.
- (d) As of to May 3, 2024, total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all distributions at net asset value during the period, and redemption at net asset value on the last day of the period. Prior to May 3, 2024, total return based on net asset value assumed that all dividend distributions were reinvested at prices obtained by the Dividend Reinvestment Plan of FIF. See Note 4 in the Notes to Financial Statements. The returns presented do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund distributions or the redemption or sale of Fund shares. Total return is calculated for the time period presented and is not annualized for periods of less than a year.
- (e) Includes costs from FIF for the period December 1, 2023 to May 3, 2024. After FIF reorganized into the Fund, the Fund began charging an annual unitary management fee of 1.10%.
- (f) Portfolio turnover is calculated for the time period presented and is not annualized for periods of less than a year and does not include securities received or delivered from processing creations or redemptions and in-kind transactions.
- (g) Calculated by subtracting the Fund's total liabilities (not including the loans outstanding) from the Fund's total assets, and dividing by the outstanding loans balance in 000's.

# Other Information

# **Continuous Offering**

The Fund issues, on a continuous offering basis, its shares in one or more groups of a fixed number of Fund shares (each such group of such specified number of individual Fund shares, a "Creation Unit Aggregation"). The method by which Creation Unit Aggregations of Fund shares are created and traded may raise certain issues under applicable securities laws. Because new Creation Unit Aggregations of shares are issued and sold by the Fund on an ongoing basis, a "distribution," as such term is used in the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), may occur at any point. Broker-dealers and other persons are cautioned that some activities on their part may, depending on the circumstances, result in their being deemed participants in a distribution in a manner which could render them statutory underwriters and subject them to the prospectus delivery requirement and liability provisions of the Securities Act.

For example, a broker-dealer firm or its client may be deemed a statutory underwriter if it takes Creation Unit Aggregations after placing an order with FTP, breaks them down into constituent shares and sells such shares directly to customers, or if it chooses to couple the creation of a supply of new shares with an active selling effort involving solicitation of secondary market demand for shares. A determination of whether one is an underwriter for purposes of the Securities Act must take into account all the facts and circumstances pertaining to the activities of the broker-dealer or its client in the particular case, and the examples mentioned above should not be considered a complete description of all the activities that could lead to a characterization as an underwriter.

Broker-dealer firms should also note that dealers who are not "underwriters" but are effecting transactions in shares, whether or not participating in the distribution of shares, are generally required to deliver a prospectus. This is because the prospectus delivery exemption in Section 4(a)(3) of the Securities Act is not available in respect of such transactions as a result of Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act. As a result, broker-dealer firms should note that dealers who are not underwriters but are participating in a distribution (as contrasted with ordinary secondary market transactions) and thus dealing with the shares that are part of an overallotment within the meaning of Section 4(a)(3)(C) of the Securities Act would be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(a)(3) of the Securities Act. Firms that incur a prospectus delivery obligation with respect to shares are reminded that, under the Securities Act Rule 153, a prospectus delivery obligation under Section 5(b)(2) of the Securities Act owed to a broker-dealer in connection with a sale on the Exchange is satisfied by the fact that the prospectus is available from the Exchange upon request. The prospectus delivery mechanism provided in Rule 153 is available with respect to transactions on a national securities exchange, a trading facility or an alternative trading system.

FTP, or its affiliates, or a fund or unit investment trust for which FTP or an affiliate serves as sponsor or investment advisor, may purchase shares of the Fund through a broker-dealer or other investors, including in secondary market transactions, and because FTP or its affiliates may be deemed affiliates of the Fund, the shares are being registered to permit the resale of these shares from time to time after any such purchase. The Fund will not receive any of the proceeds from the resale of such shares.







# First Trust Exchange-Traded Fund VIII

FT Energy Income Partners Enhanced Income ETF

### For More Information

For more detailed information on the Fund, several additional sources of information are available to you. The SAI, incorporated by reference into this prospectus, contains detailed information on the Fund's policies and operation. Additional information about the Fund's investments is available in the annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders and in Form N-CSR. In the Fund's annual report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly impacted the Fund's performance during the last fiscal year. In Form N-CSR, you will find the Fund's annual and semi-annual financial statements. The Fund's most recent SAI, annual and semi-annual reports and certain other information such as Fund financial statements are available free of charge by calling the Fund at (800) 621-1675, on the Fund's website at http://www.ftportfolios.com or through your financial advisor. Shareholders may call the toll-free number above with any inquiries.

You may obtain this and other information regarding the Fund, including the SAI and the Codes of Ethics adopted by First Trust, FTP and the Trust, directly from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). Information on the SEC's website is free of charge. Visit the SEC's online EDGAR database at http://www.sec.gov. You may also request information regarding the Fund by sending a request (along with a duplication fee) to the SEC by sending an electronic request to publicinfo@sec.gov.