Eirst Trust

Market Watch

Week of October 19th

Stock Index Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2019	5-yr.
Dow Jones Industrial Avg. (28,606)	0.07%	2.09%	8.49%	25.34%	13.39%
S&P 500 (3,484)	0.21%	9.44%	18.75%	31.48%	13.62%
NASDAQ 100 (11,852)	1.08%	36.69%	51.06%	39.46%	23.04%
S&P 500 Growth	0.51%	25.08%	34.76%	31.13%	17.83%
S&P 500 Value	-0.27%	-8.29%	0.31%	31.92%	8.32%
S&P MidCap 400 Growth	-0.02%	8.32%	16.14%	26.29%	10.75%
S&P MidCap 400 Value	0.18%	-12.88%	-5.68%	26.01%	5.88%
S&P SmallCap 600 Growth	-0.04%	-1.01%	7.20%	21.08%	9.67%
S&P SmallCap 600 Value	-0.47%	-16.17%	-8.96%	24.50%	5.47%
MSCI EAFE	-1.45%	-5.70%	0.51%	22.01%	4.10%
MSCI World (ex US)	-0.97%	-3.23%	3.81%	21.51%	5.14%
MSCI World	-0.30%	4.88%	13.00%	27.67%	9.76%
MSCI Emerging Markets	0.15%	2.74%	12.24%	18.42%	7.87%
S&P GSCI	0.22%	-31.65%	-26.43%	17.63%	-7.74%

Source: Bloomberg. Returns are total returns. *5-yr. return is an average annual.* One-week, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 10/16/20. An index cannot be purchased directly by investors. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

S&P Sector Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2019	5-yr.
Communication Services	0.90%	11.58%	18.70%	32.69%	10.10%
Consumer Discretionary	-0.18%	28.50%	32.62%	27.94%	16.71%
Consumer Staples	0.75%	7.64%	13.09%	27.61%	9.00%
Energy	-1.98%	-47.74%	-43.03%	11.81%	-11.75%
Financials	-0.92%	-17.16%	-8.49%	32.09%	7.77%
Health Care	-0.39%	7.38%	21.11%	20.82%	11.21%
Industrials	1.10%	1.76%	7.96%	29.32%	10.83%
Information Technology	0.78%	33.51%	50.21%	50.29%	26.52%
Materials	-0.38%	9.79%	18.20%	24.58%	10.85%
Real Estate	-2.30%	-4.69%	-5.01%	29.01%	6.47%
Utilities	0.84%	1.63%	4.45%	26.40%	11.20%

Source: Bloomberg. Returns are total returns. *5-yr. return is an average annual.* One-week, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 10/16/20. An index cannot be purchased directly by investors. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. On 9/28/18, the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) was reconstituted and the Telecommunications Services sector was renamed

Communication Services. GICS sector information for periods prior to 9/28/18 may not necessarily be comparable to the reconstituted sectors.

Bond Index Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2019	5-yr.
U.S. Treasury: Intermediate	0.08%	5.85%	5.82%	5.22%	2.73%
GNMA 30 Year	-0.03%	3.36%	3.83%	5.86%	2.72%
U.S. Aggregate	0.24%	6.81%	7.20%	8.72%	4.14%
U.S. Corporate High Yield	0.06%	2.04%	4.58%	14.32%	6.56%
U.S. Corporate Investment Grade	0.46%	7.27%	8.78%	14.54%	6.01%
Municipal Bond: Long Bond (22+)	0.18%	2.61%	3.12%	10.26%	4.85%
Global Aggregate	0.10%	6.21%	6.80%	6.84%	3.83%

Source: Bloomberg Barclays. Returns are total returns. *5-yr. return is an average annual*. One-week, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 10/16/20. An index cannot be purchased directly by investors. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Key Rates					
Fed Funds	0.00% - 0.25%	2-yr T-Note	0.14%		
LIBOR (1-month)	0.15%	5-yr T-Note	0.32%		
CPI - Headline	1.40%	10-yr T-Note	0.75%		
CPI - Core	1.70%	30-yr T-Bond	1.53%		
Money Market Accts.	0.37%	30-yr Fixed Mortgage	3.02%		
1-yr CD	0.60%	Prime Rate	3.25%		
3-yr CD	0.62%	Bond Buyer 40	3.62%		
5-yr CD	0.75%				

Sources: Bankrate.com, Federal Reserve Bank NY, & US Bureau of Labor Statistics. LIBOR and Prime Rate as of 10/13/20, all other data as of 10/16/20.

Market Indicators	
TED Spread	11 bps
Investment Grade Spread (A2)	144 bps
ICE BofA US High Yield Constrained Index Spread	496 bps
Source: Bloomberg. As of 10/16/20.	

Weekly Fund Flows						
Estimated Flows to Long-Term Mutual Funds for the Week Ended 10/7/20						
	Current	Week	Previ	Previous		
Domestic Equity	-\$11.746	Billion	-\$7.212	Billion		
Foreign Equity	-\$1.236	Billion	-\$12.701	Billion		
Taxable Bond	\$11.745	Billion	\$1.586	Billion		
Municipal Bond	\$2.086	Billion	\$947	Million		
Change in Money Market Fund Assets for the Week Ended 10/14/20						
	Current	Current Week		ous		
Retail	\$0.74	Billion	\$3.28	Billion		
Institutional	-\$19.80	Billion	-\$24.92	Billion		
Source: Investment Company Institute						

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Factoids for the Week of October 12, 2020

Monday, October 12, 2020

Moody's reported that its global speculative-grade default rate stood at 6.4% in September, according to its own release. Moody's puts the historical average default rate at 4.1%. Its baseline scenario sees the default rate peaking at 8.4% in March 2021 before dropping to 6.8% by September 2021. Moody's has recorded 166 defaults so far this year, well above the 64 defaults at this point a year ago. The U.S. speculative-grade default rate stood at 8.5% in September. Moody's sees it peaking at 11.1% in March 2021 before dropping to 9.0% by September 2021. The default rate on senior loans stood at 4.64% at the close of September, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence.

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

The Social Security Administration announced this morning that the average Social Security benefit will increase by about \$20 per month to \$1,540 in 2021, or a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) of 1.3%, according to *Money*. While any increase is welcome, for many older adults, the extra \$20 will barely cover the \$17 projected 2021 monthly premium increase for Medicare Part B, according to the Congressional Budget Office. Since the 2008-2009 financial crisis, the annual COLA has averaged 1.4%, roughly half of what was received the prior decade.

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

International Data Corporation's (IDC) *Worldwide Quarterly Personal Computing Device Tracker* estimates that global shipments of traditional PCs, including desktops, notebooks and workstations, grew 14.6% year-over-year to 81.3 million units in Q3'20, according to its own release. Both consumer and institutional demand were strong and approached record levels in some cases. IDC noted that shipments would have been higher had it not been for some component shortages. As a result, the PC industry is carrying a sizeable backlog of unfilled orders that could extend into 2021.

Thursday, October 15, 2020

Refinitiv reported that global merger and acquisition activity (M&A) was strong in Q3'20, totaling just over \$1 trillion, with the U.S. accounting for \$414 billion of it, according to Reuters. Most of the deal activity involved technology and health care companies. Year-to-date through September, M&A deal volume totaled just \$2.2 trillion, down 21% from the same period a year ago. U.S. transactions totaled \$800 billion, down 43% from last year's pace through three quarters.

Friday, October 16, 2020

International Data Corporation's (IDC) *Worldwide Whole Cloud Forecast, 2020-2024* sees spending on cloud services, including hardware and software, and the professional and managed services opportunities around cloud services surpassing \$1 trillion in 2024, according to its own release. IDC puts the five-year compound annual growth rate at 15.7%.

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