First Trust

Market Watch

Week of December 14th

Stock Index Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2019	5-yr.
Dow Jones Industrial Avg. (30,046)	-0.54%	7.70%	10.16%	25.34%	14.41%
S&P 500 (3,663)	-0.95%	15.39%	18.77%	31.48%	14.98%
NASDAQ 100 (12,375)	-1.22%	42.92%	48.59%	39.46%	23.53%
S&P 500 Growth	-1.07%	28.99%	32.98%	31.13%	18.43%
S&P 500 Value	-0.76%	0.02%	2.76%	31.92%	10.67%
S&P MidCap 400 Growth	-0.09%	18.42%	21.48%	26.29%	13.23%
S&P MidCap 400 Value	-0.33%	1.36%	3.75%	26.01%	9.95%
S&P SmallCap 600 Growth	0.74%	15.02%	18.13%	21.08%	13.45%
S&P SmallCap 600 Value	-0.52%	0.31%	2.41%	24.50%	10.06%
MSCI EAFE	-0.51%	4.87%	7.76%	22.01%	7.19%
MSCI World (ex US)	-0.12%	7.83%	11.62%	21.51%	8.74%
MSCI World	-0.66%	12.90%	16.10%	27.67%	11.95%
MSCI Emerging Markets	0.54%	15.03%	21.46%	18.42%	12.81%
S&P GSCI	1.12%	-26.66%	-23.78%	17.63%	-2.75%

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 12/11/20. 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	0.10%	23.21%	25.21%	32.69%	12.50%
Consumer Discretionary	-1.17%	28.91%	33.23%	27.94%	16.86%
Consumer Staples	-0.28%	9.64%	11.13%	27.61%	9.52%
Energy	1.20%	-29.00%	-25.77%	11.81%	-3.66%
Financials	-1.74%	-5.60%	-3.39%	32.09%	10.69%
Health Care	-0.79%	11.12%	14.45%	20.82%	11.80%
Industrials	-0.51%	10.78%	11.70%	29.32%	12.61%
Information Technology	-1.42%	37.01%	43.38%	50.29%	26.58%
Materials	-1.18%	17.55%	21.01%	24.58%	12.43%
Real Estate	-2.87%	-4.30%	-1.54%	29.01%	7.01%
Utilities	-0.29%	-1.15%	2.04%	26.40%	12.15%
Sources Pleambarg Baturne are total returne. Ever return is an everage annual					

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 12/11/20. 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					
Week	YTD	12-mo.	2019	5-yr.	
0.25%	5.75%	5.71%	5.22%	2.89%	
-0.06%	3.31%	3.45%	5.86%	2.76%	
0.35%	7.21%	7.01%	8.72%	4.39%	
0.18%	6.15%	7.54%	14.32%	8.54%	
0.26%	9.13%	9.09%	14.54%	6.63%	
0.47%	5.88%	5.68%	10.26%	5.16%	
0.35%	8.45%	8.79%	6.84%	4.67%	
	Week 0.25% -0.06% 0.35% 0.18% 0.26% 0.47%	Week YTD 0.25% 5.75% -0.06% 3.31% 0.35% 7.21% 0.18% 6.15% 0.26% 9.13% 0.47% 5.88%	Week YTD 12-mo. 0.25% 5.75% 5.71% -0.06% 3.31% 3.45% 0.35% 7.21% 7.01% 0.18% 6.15% 7.54% 0.26% 9.13% 9.09% 0.47% 5.88% 5.68%	Week YTD 12-mo. 2019 0.25% 5.75% 5.71% 5.22% -0.06% 3.31% 3.45% 5.86% 0.35% 7.21% 7.01% 8.72% 0.18% 6.15% 7.54% 14.32% 0.26% 9.13% 9.09% 14.54% 0.47% 5.88% 5.68% 10.26%	

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 12/11/20. 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	0.12%		
LIBOR (1-month)	0.15%	5-yr T-Note	0.37%		
CPI - Headline	1.20%	10-yr T-Note	0.90%		
CPI - Core	1.60%	30-yr T-Bond	1.63%		
Money Market Accts.	0.32%	30-yr Fixed Mortgage	2.92%		
1-yr CD	0.52%	Prime Rate	3.25%		
3-yr CD	0.56%	Bond Buyer 40	3.47%		
5-yr CD	0.70%				

Sources: Bankrate.com, Federal Reserve Bank NY, & US Bureau of Labor Statistics. LIBOR as of 12/9/20 and Prime Rate as of 12/8/20, all other data as of 12/11/20.

Market Indicators				
TED Spread	15 bps			
Investment Grade Spread (A2)	119 bps			
ICE BofA US High Yield Constrained Index Spread	414 bps			
Source: Bloomberg. As of 12/11/20.				

Weekly Fund Flows						
Estimated Flows to Long-Term Mutual Funds for the Eight-Day Period Ended 12/2/20						
	Current	Week	Previ	Previous		
Domestic Equity	-\$8.336	Billion	-\$4.059	Billion		
Foreign Equity	-\$14.708	Billion	-\$2.197	Billion		
Taxable Bond	\$17.100	Billion	\$9.539	Billion		
Municipal Bond	\$1.372	Billion	\$1.963	Billion		
Change in Money Market Fund Assets for the Week Ended 12/9/20						
	Current	Current Week		Previous		
Retail	-\$6.88	Billion	-\$3.55	Billion		
Institutional	\$29.78	Billion	-\$0.33	Billion		
Source: Investment Company Institute						

Source: Investment Company Institute.

Factoids for the Week of December 7, 2020

Monday, December 7, 2020

As of last Friday's close, 82% of the stocks in the S&P 500 Index were trading above their 50-day moving average, compared to 88% for the S&P MidCap 400 Index and 91% for the S&P SmallCap 600 Index, according to Bloomberg. With respect to their 200-day moving average, 90% of the stocks in the S&P 500 Index were above that mark, compared to 92% for the S&P MidCap 400 Index and 91% for the S&P SmallCap 600 Index.

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

As of 12/7/20, 17% of all restaurants in the U.S. – more than 110,000 establishments – were either closed permanently or long-term, according to the National Restaurant Association. The vast majority that closed permanently had been in business for an average of 16 years. Eighty-seven percent of the full service restaurants (independent, chain and franchise) it surveyed the last two weeks of November said their revenues had plunged by an average of 36%, and 83% of them said they expect sales to decline even more over the next three months.

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Moody's reported that its global speculative-grade default rate stood at 6.7% in November, 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 7.7% in March 2021 before dropping to 5.9% by November 2021. Moody's has recorded 195 defaults so far this year, well above the 84 defaults at this point a year ago and the highest total for a calendar year since the 2008-2009 financial crisis. The U.S. speculative-grade default rate stood at 8.4% in November. The default rate on senior loans stood at 4.27% at the close of November, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence.

Thursday, December 10, 2020

CoreLogic reported that U.S. homeowners with mortgages, representing about 63% of all properties, have seen their home equity increase by an average of 10.8% over the past year, according to CNBC. That equates to a combined \$1 trillion, or an average of \$17,000 per homeowner. It is the largest gain in home equity in more than six years.

Friday, December 11, 2020

In an interview with CNBC, JPMorgan's Dubravko Lakos-Bujas, head of equity strategy and global quantitative research, stated that he sees \$1 trillion flowing into the stock market in 2021, according to Business Insider. He believes that the market risks associated with the global trade war, the COVID-19 pandemic and uncertainty surrounding the U.S. election will subside in 2021. He believes that the S&P 500 Index could rally by as much as 25% next year, driven by capital flows from hedge funds, retail investors, stock buybacks and a rotation from non-equity holdings into equities.

The information presented is not intended to constitute an investment recommendation for, or advice to, any specific person. By providing this information, First Trust is not undertaking to give advice in any fiduciary capacity within the meaning of ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code or any other regulatory framework. Financial professionals are responsible for evaluating investment risks independently and for exercising independent judgment in determining whether investments are appropriate for their clients.