

## A Sub-Fund of Morgan Stanley Investment Funds

# US Core Equity Fund

### APPLIED EQUITY ADVISORS TEAM

Investors should note that, relative to the expectations of the Autorité des Marchés Financiers, this UCITS presents disproportionate communication on the consideration of extra-financial criteria in its management.

### Performance Review

In the three month period ending 30 September 2025, the Fund's Z shares returned 7.49% (net of fees)<sup>1</sup>, while the benchmark returned 8.12%.

As a core portfolio, US Core attempts to tilt toward the style of stock exposure (growth, value, defensive) that offers the best opportunity within the context of a typically 30- to 35-stock portfolio. With a limited number of stocks, diversification<sup>2</sup> among positions is a critical component of risk control.

Following are the most significant performance drivers relative to the S&P 500 Index benchmark for the third quarter of 2025:

1. Stock Selection:
  - a. Alphabet was up +38% for the quarter, adding +1.4%.
  - b. NVIDIA was up +18% in the quarter, adding +1.0%.
  - c. Apple was up +24% in the quarter, adding +0.9%.
  - d. Tesla was up +40% in the quarter, adding +0.7%.
  - e. Netflix was down -10% in the quarter, detracting -1.0%.
  - f. Brown & Brown was down -15% in the quarter, detracting -0.9%.
  - g. LPL Financial was down -11% in the quarter, detracting -0.7%.
  - h. Progressive was down -8% in the quarter, detracting -0.7%.
  - i. Ameriprise was down -8% in the quarter, detracting -0.6%.
2. Style Exposures:
  - a. An overweight to the Magnificent 7 stocks added +0.5%.
  - b. An underweight to highly volatile stocks detracted -0.6%.
3. Sector Exposures:
  - a. An overweight to financials detracted -0.7%.

**Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The attribution is presented gross of fees. Had these fees and expenses been deducted, returns would be lower. See the next page for performance.**

### Strategy and Outlook

1. Based on history, if an equity bull market made it to the fourth year, it was consistently positive.<sup>3</sup>
  - a. The current equity bull market is just beginning its fourth year.
2. Federal Reserve (Fed) monetary policy is turning "friendlier".
  - b. Don't fight the Fed.
3. Fiscal policy (One Big Beautiful Bill Act, in particular) will likely provide significant consumer stimulus starting in 2026.<sup>4</sup>
4. Investment sentiment historically follows price action.
  - a. Based on equity market strength, sentiment is surprisingly less optimistic than should be at this point.<sup>5</sup>
  - b. A sign more investors must be pulled into the equity markets before euphoria sets in.
5. Valuation is high; however:
  - a. Valuation methodologies are only as accurate as the accuracies of Wall Street predictions of company earnings.
  - b. In 2025, those predictions have proven to be too low.
  - c. Hence, valuations may not be as high as perceived.
6. Dollar weakness led to outperformance of non-U.S. equities in the first half of 2025.
  - a. Since this summer, the U.S. dollar has moderated and has outperformed non-U.S. currencies.
  - b. Investors may have swung their equity allocations away from the U.S. at just the wrong time.
7. The biggest risk to the current bull market cycle is the speed at which it moves through the "Euphoria" stage.

<sup>1</sup> Source: Morgan Stanley Investment Management Limited. Data as of 30 September 2025.

<sup>2</sup> Diversification neither assures a profit nor guarantees against loss in a declining market.

<sup>3</sup> Source: Strategas, Bloomberg L.P. Equity market is represented by the S&P 500 Index; data since 1957.

<sup>4</sup> Source: Strategas

<sup>5</sup> Source: American Association of Individual Investors (AAII) as of 30 September 2025. Equity market is represented by the S&P 500 Index.

How our portfolio is positioned:

1. We continue to like a balance between growth and value stocks, and we remain focused on portfolio volatility to help mitigate the overall risk of the portfolio.
2. Financials and technology sectors are most favored, with health care as the least favored sector.

**Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** The market returns referred to in the commentary are those of representative indices and are not meant to depict the performance of a specific investment.

**For further information, please contact your Morgan Stanley Investment Management representative.**

## Fund Facts

|               |                            |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| Launch date   | 05 July 2016               |
| Base currency | U.S. dollars               |
| Benchmark     | S&P 500 Total Return Index |

## Calendar Year Returns (%)

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.

|                            | YTD   | 2024  | 2023  | 2022   | 2021  | 2020  | 2019  | 2018   | 2017  | 2016 | 2015 |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|------|------|
| Class Z Shares             | 13.37 | 29.03 | 19.33 | -20.22 | 36.85 | 23.41 | 35.56 | -12.14 | 19.71 | --   | --   |
| S&P 500 Total Return Index | 14.83 | 25.02 | 26.29 | -18.11 | 28.71 | 18.40 | 31.49 | -4.38  | 21.83 | --   | --   |

All performance data is calculated NAV to NAV, net of fees, and does not take account of commissions and costs incurred on the issue and redemption of shares. The sources for all performance and index data is Morgan Stanley Investment Management ('MSIM Ltd'). **Please visit our website [www.morganstanley.com/im](http://www.morganstanley.com/im) to see the latest performance returns for the fund's other share classes.**

## Share Class Z Risk and Reward Profile

- The fund may be impacted by movements in the exchange rates between the fund's currency and the currencies of the fund's investments.
- The fund relies on other parties to fulfill certain services, investments or transactions. If these parties become insolvent, it may expose the fund to financial loss.
- Sustainability factors can pose risks to investments, for example: impact asset values, increased operational costs.
- There may be an insufficient number of buyers or sellers which may affect the funds ability to buy or sell securities.

- Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. Returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations. The value of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may lose all or a substantial portion of his or her investment.
- The value of the investments and the income from them will vary and there can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objectives.
- Investments may be in a variety of currencies and therefore changes in rates of exchange between currencies may cause the value of investments to decrease or increase. Furthermore, the value of investments may be adversely affected by fluctuations in exchange rates between the investor's reference currency and the base currency of the investments.

Please refer to the Prospectus for full risk disclosures, available at [www.morganstanleyinvestmentfunds.com](http://www.morganstanleyinvestmentfunds.com). All data as of 30.09.2025 and subject to change daily.

Applications for shares in the Sub-Fund should not be made without first consulting the current Prospectus and the Key Information Document ("KID") or Key Investor Information Document ("KIID"), which are available in English and in the language of countries authorized for fund distribution and is available online at [Morgan Stanley Investment Funds Webpages](http://Morgan Stanley Investment Funds Webpages) or free of charge from the Registered Office at European Bank and Business Centre, 6B route de Trèves, L-2633 Senningerberg, R.C.S. Luxembourg B 29 192.

The summary of investor rights is available in the aforementioned languages and website location under the General Literature section.

Information in relation to sustainability aspects of the Fund is available in English online at: [Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation](http://Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation).

If the management company of the relevant Fund decides to

terminate its arrangement for marketing that Fund in any EEA country where it is registered for sale, it will do so in accordance with the UCITS rules..

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This material has been prepared solely for informational purposes and does not constitute an offer or a recommendation to buy or sell any particular security or to adopt any specific investment strategy. Investors should be aware that a diversified strategy does not protect against a loss in a particular market.

All investments involve risks, including the possible loss of principal. The material contained herein has not been based on a consideration of any individual client circumstances and is not investment advice, nor should it be construed in any way as tax, accounting, legal or regulatory advice. To that end, investors should seek independent legal and financial advice,

including advice as to tax consequences, before making any investment decision.

The use of leverage increases risks, such that a relatively small movement in the value of an investment may result in a disproportionately large movement, unfavourable as well as favourable, in the value of that investment and, in turn, the value of the Fund.

Investment in the Fund concerns the acquisition of units or shares in a fund, and not in a given underlying asset such as building or shares of a company, as these are only the underlying assets owned.

Morgan Stanley Investment Management 'MSIM', the asset management division of Morgan Stanley (NYSE: MS) has not authorised financial intermediaries to use and to distribute this material, unless such use and distribution is made in accordance with applicable law and regulation. MSIM shall not be liable for, and accepts no liability for, the use or misuse of this material by any such financial intermediary. If you are a distributor of the Morgan Stanley Investment Funds, some or all of the funds or shares in individual funds may be available for distribution. Please refer to your sub-distribution agreement for these details before forwarding fund information to your clients.

The whole or any part of this material may not be directly or indirectly reproduced, copied, modified, used to create a derivative work, performed, displayed, published, posted, licensed, framed, distributed or transmitted or any of its contents disclosed to third parties without the Firm's express written consent. This material may not be linked to unless such hyperlink is for personal and non-commercial use. All information contained herein is proprietary and is protected under copyright and other applicable law.

Where such a translation is made, this English version remains definitive; any discrepancies with another language, the English version prevails.

This material has been prepared on the basis of publicly available information, internally developed data and other third-party sources believed to be reliable. However, no assurances are provided regarding the reliability of such information and MSIM, the Firm has not sought to independently verify information taken from public and third-party sources.

Charts and graphs provided herein are for illustrative purposes only and subject to change.

## INDEX INFORMATION

The **S&P 500 Total Return Index** is an index that consists of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity and industry group representation. The S&P Index is a market value weighted index with each stock's weight proportionate to its market value. The S&P Index is one of the most widely used benchmarks of U.S. equity performance. The performance of the S&P Index does not account for any management fees, incentive compensation, commissions or other expenses that would be incurred pursuing such strategy. Total return provides investors with a price-plus-gross cash dividend return. Gross cash dividends are applied on the ex-date of the dividend.

The index is unmanaged and does not include any expenses, fees or sales charges. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

Any index referred to herein is the intellectual property (including registered trademarks) of the applicable licensor. Any product based on an index is in no way sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by the applicable licensor and it shall not have any liability with respect thereto. The Sub-Fund is actively managed, and the management of the fund is not constrained

by the composition of the Benchmark.

The **Standard & Poor's 500® Index (S&P 500®)** measures the performance of the large cap segment of the U.S. equities market, covering approximately 80% of the U.S. equities market. The Index includes 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy.

## DISTRIBUTION

**This material is only intended for and will be only distributed to persons resident in jurisdictions where such distribution or availability would not be contrary to local laws or regulations. It is the responsibility of any person in possession of this material and any persons wishing to make an application for Shares in pursuant to the Prospectus to inform themselves and observe all applicable laws and regulations of any relevant jurisdictions.**

**MSIM and its affiliates have arrangements in place to market each other's products and services. Each MSIM affiliate is regulated as appropriate in the jurisdiction it operates. MSIM's affiliates are: Eaton Vance Advisers International Ltd, Calvert Research and Management, Eaton Vance Management, Parametric Portfolio Associates LLC, Atlanta Capital Management LLC and Parametric SAS.**

**In the EU**, this material is issued by MSIM Fund Management (Ireland) Limited ('FMIL'). FMIL is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland and is incorporated in Ireland as a private company limited by shares with company registration number 616661 and has its registered address at 24-26 City Quay, Dublin 2, DO2 NY19, Ireland.

**Outside the EU**, this material is issued by MSIM Ltd is authorized and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered in England. Registered No. 1981121. Registered Office: 25 Cabot Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 4QA.

**Switzerland:** MSIM materials are available in German and are issued by Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc, London (Zurich Branch) Authorised and regulated by the Eidgenössische Finanzmarktaufsicht ('FINMA'). Registered Office: Beethovenstrasse 33, 8002 Zurich, Switzerland.

**Saudi Arabia:** This document may not be distributed in the Kingdom except to such persons as are permitted under the Investment Funds Regulations issued by the Capital Market Authority. The Capital Market Authority does not make any representation as to the accuracy or completeness of this document, and expressly disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss arising from, or incurred in reliance upon, any part of this document. Prospective subscribers of the securities offered hereby should conduct their own due diligence on the accuracy of the information relating to the securities to be offered. If you do not understand the contents of this document, you should consult an authorised financial adviser.

This financial promotion was issued and approved for use in Saudi Arabia by Morgan Stanley Saudi Arabia, Al Rashid Tower, Kings Sand Street, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, authorized and regulated by the Capital Market Authority license number 06044-37.

**Hong Kong:** This material is disseminated by Morgan Stanley Asia Limited for use in Hong Kong and shall only be made available to "professional investors" as defined under the Securities and Futures Ordinance of Hong Kong (Cap 571). The contents of this material have not been reviewed nor approved by any regulatory authority including the Securities and Futures Commission in Hong Kong. Accordingly, save where an exemption is available under the relevant law, this material shall not be issued, circulated, distributed, directed at, or made available to, the public in Hong Kong.

**Singapore:** This material should not be considered to be the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to the public or any member of the public in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under section 304 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore ("SFA"); or (ii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA. In particular, for investment funds that are not authorized or recognized by the MAS, units in such funds are not allowed to be offered to the retail public; any written material issued to persons as aforementioned in connection with an offer is not a prospectus as defined in the SFA and, accordingly, statutory liability under the SFA in relation to the content of prospectuses does not apply, and investors should consider carefully whether the investment is suitable for them. In cases where you are dealing with a representative of Morgan Stanley Asia Limited, and where such representative is acting on behalf of Morgan Stanley Asia Limited, please note that such representative is not subject to regulatory requirements issued by the Monetary Authority of Singapore nor is under the supervision of the Monetary Authority of Singapore. For any issues which may arise in your dealing with such representative, please approach the Singapore-based contact person who has been established as your local contact person.

**Australia:** This material is provided by Morgan Stanley Investment Management (Australia) Pty Ltd ABN 22122040037, AFSL No. 314182 and its affiliates and does not constitute an offer of interests. Morgan Stanley Investment Management (Australia) Pty Limited arranges for MSIM affiliates to provide financial services to Australian wholesale clients. Interests will only be offered in circumstances under which no disclosure is required under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) (the "Corporations Act"). Any offer of interests will not purport to be an offer of interests in circumstances under which disclosure is required under the Corporations Act and will only be made to persons who qualify as a "wholesale client" (as defined in the Corporations Act). This material will not be lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.

**Chile:** Potential investors are advised that this document refers to foreign securities that may be registered in the Foreign Securities Register ("FSR") from the Commission for Financial Markets (Comisión para el Mercado Financiero or "CMF") (the "Registered Securities") or that may not be registered in the FSR (the "Non-Registered Securities").

**For Registered Securities, please be advised:** The securities being offered are foreign. Shareholder rights and obligations are those of the issuer's home jurisdiction. Shareholders and potential investors should inform themselves on what those rights and obligations are and how to exercise them. CMF supervision of the securities is limited to information requirements in Rule 352, overall supervision is conducted by the foreign regulator in the issuer's home jurisdiction. Public information available for the securities is exclusively that required by the foreign regulator and accounting principles and auditing rules might differ to those applicable to Chilean issuers. The provisions on Article 196 of Law 18.045 are applicable to all parties involved in the registration, deposit, transaction and other acts associated with the foreign securities ruled by Title XXIV of Law 18.045.

**For Non-Registered Securities, please be advised:** THE SECURITIES INCLUDED IN THIS DOCUMENT ARE NOT REGISTERED IN THE FSR AND OFFERS REGARDING SUCH SECURITIES WILL BE CONDUCTED SUBJECT TO GENERAL RULE N°336 OF THE CMF, BEGINNING AT THE DATE OF THIS

DOCUMENT. THESE ARE FOREIGN SECURITIES AND THEIR ISSUER IS UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE PUBLIC DOCUMENTS IN CHILE. THE SECURITIES ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE SUPERVISION OF THE CMF AND CANNOT BE PUBLICLY OFFERED. THEREFORE, THIS DOCUMENT AND OTHER OFFERING MATERIALS RELATING TO THE OFFER OF THE INTERESTS IN THE FUND DO NOT CONSTITUTE A PUBLIC OFFER OF, OR AN INVITATION TO SUBSCRIBE FOR OR PURCHASE, THE FUND INTERESTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE.

Please contact your local Distributor or the person who provided this document for information on the registration status of specific securities.

**Peru:** The Fund is a sub Fund of the Morgan Stanley Investment Funds, a Luxembourg domiciled Société d'Investissement à Capital Variable (the "Company") is registered in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg as an undertaking for collective investment pursuant to Part 1 of the Law of 17th December 2010, as amended. The Company is an Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities ("UCITS"). If the Fund and the interests in the Fund have been registered in Peru under *Decreto Legislativo 862: Ley de Fondos de Inversión y sus Sociedades Administradoras* as amended; under *Decreto Legislativo 861: Ley del Mercado de Valores* (the "Securities Market Law") as amended, and under the *Reglamento del Mercado de Inversionistas Institucionales* approved by *Resolución SMV N°021-2013-SMV/01* as amended by the *Resolución de Superintendente N°126-2020-SMV/02* (the "*Reglamento 1*") and *Resolución de Superintendente N°035-2021-SMV/02* (the "*Reglamento 2*"), and are being offered to institutional investors only (as defined in article 8 of the Securities Market Law) under the special public offering directed exclusively to the institutional investors under the *Reglamento 1 and Reglamento 2*, then the interests in the Fund will be registered in the Section "*Del Mercado de Inversionistas Institucionales*" of the Securities Market Public Registry (*Registro Público del Mercado de Valores*) maintained by the *Superintendencia del Mercado de Valores (SMV)*, and the offering of the Fund interests in Peru only to institutional investors will be subject to the supervision of the SMV, as well as any transfers of the Fund interests shall be subject to the limitations contained in the Securities Market Law and the regulations issued thereunder mentioned before, under which the Fund interests may only be transferred between institutional investors under Article 27 of the *Reglamento 1 and Reglamento 2*. If neither the Fund nor the interests in the Fund have been and will not be registered in Peru under *Decreto Legislativo 862* and under *Decreto Legislativo 861 referenced above*, nor they will be subject to a public offering directed to institutional investors under the *Reglamento 1*, and will be offered to institutional investors only (as defined in article 8 of the Securities Market Law) pursuant to a private placement, according to article 5 of the Securities Market Law, the interests in the Fund will not be registered in the Securities Market Public Registry maintained by the *SMV*, and the offering of the Fund interests in Peru to institutional investors nor the Fund will be subject to the supervision of the SMV, and any transfers of the Fund interests shall be subject to the limitations contained in the Securities Market Law and the regulations issued thereunder mentioned before, under which the Fund interests may only be transferred between institutional investors.