

# MERIDIAN EQUITY INCOME FUND

## FIRST QUARTER 2018



### FUND HIGHLIGHTS

- **Objective:** The Fund seeks long-term growth of capital along with income as a component of total return
- **A mutual fund that seeks:** Companies that the Investment Adviser believes have the potential for capital appreciation and the ability to grow dividends and to prioritize downside risk before potential return

**Fund Inception Date:** 01/31/2005

**Fund Assets:** \$55 million

### PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM

**Minyoung Sohn, CFA**

Portfolio Manager

Years of Experience: 19 Years

### SHARE CLASSES

|                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Class A Shares        | MRAEX |
| Class C Shares        | MRCEX |
| Investor Class Shares | MRIEX |
| Legacy Class Shares   | MEIFX |

### SECTOR WEIGHTS *(subject to change)*

| Sector                 | Portfolio | S&P 500® Index | Under/Overweight |
|------------------------|-----------|----------------|------------------|
| Consumer Discretionary | 25.66%    | 12.63%         | 13.03%           |
| Consumer Staples       | -0.92%    | 7.63%          | -8.55%           |
| Energy                 | 8.06%     | 5.71%          | 2.35%            |
| Financials             | 3.31%     | 14.70%         | -11.39%          |
| Health Care            | 12.49%    | 13.65%         | -1.16%           |
| Industrials            | 0.00%     | 10.17%         | -10.17%          |
| Information Technology | 34.82%    | 24.78%         | 10.04%           |
| Materials              | 9.11%     | 2.84%          | 6.27%            |
| Real Estate            | 0.00%     | 2.75%          | -2.75%           |
| Telecommunications     | 1.36%     | 1.91%          | -0.55%           |
| Utilities              | 0.22%     | 2.83%          | -2.61%           |

### PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS *(subject to change)*

|                                      | Representative Account |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Number of Holdings                   | 75                     |
| Weighted Average Market Cap (USD bn) | \$54.63                |
| Price-to-Earnings                    | 19.80                  |
| Price-to-Book                        | 4.19                   |
| Price-to-Sales                       | 1.63                   |
| Price-to-Cash Flow                   | 9.67                   |

### TOP 10 HOLDINGS (% OF PORTFOLIO)

| Holding <i>(subject to change)</i> | Weighting |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Tesla US*                          | 7.28%     |
| Nvidia Corp.                       | 5.68%     |
| Microsoft Corp.                    | 5.22%     |
| Roku, Inc.                         | 4.38%     |
| Royal Gold, Inc.                   | 4.38%     |
| Amazon.com, Inc.                   | 4.14%     |
| Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Inc.      | 3.89%     |
| Las Vegas Sands Corp.              | 3.67%     |
| Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.       | 3.66%     |
| Alphabet, Inc.                     | 3.53%     |

### RISK-RETURN STATISTICS (3-YEAR)<sup>1</sup>

|                    | Representative Account | S&P 500® Index <sup>2</sup> |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Alpha              |                        | 0.03                        |
| Beta               |                        | 1.03                        |
| Standard Deviation | 15.93%                 | 10.08%                      |
| Sharpe             | 1.71                   | 1.83                        |

\*TSLA US 01/17/20 P200

**Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** Investors should consider the investment objective and policies, risk considerations, charges and ongoing expenses of an investment carefully before investing. The prospectus contains this and other information relevant to an investment in the fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest or send money. To obtain a prospectus, please contact your investment representative or access the website at [meridianfund.com](http://meridianfund.com).  
Not FDIC-Insured, Not Bank Guaranteed, May Lose Value.

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### FUND TOTAL PERFORMANCE (As of 03/31/2018)

| Share Class                | Ticker | Gross Expense Ratio | Net Expense Ratio | Inception Date | 3 Month | 1 Year | 3 Year <sup>4</sup> | 5 Year <sup>4</sup> | 10 Year <sup>4</sup> | Since Inception <sup>3,4</sup> |
|----------------------------|--------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------|--------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Class A Shares – No Load   | MRAEX  | 1.68%               | 1.73%             | 11/15/13       | -0.25%  | 21.12% | 10.55%              | 11.09%              | 8.12%                | 7.34%                          |
| Class A Shares – With Load | MRAEX  | 1.68%               | 1.73%             | 11/15/13       | -6.00%  | 14.13% | 8.38%               | 9.78%               | 7.49%                | 6.86%                          |
| Class C Shares             | MRCEX  | 2.33%               | 2.13%             | 07/01/15       | -0.38%  | 20.50% | 10.09%              | 10.68%              | 8.02%                | 7.31%                          |
| Investor Class Shares      | MRIEX  | 1.44%               | 1.47%             | 11/15/13       | -0.25%  | 21.35% | 10.82%              | 11.35%              | 8.39%                | 7.60%                          |
| Legacy Class Shares        | MEIFX  | 1.35%               | 1.38%             | 01/31/05       | -0.19%  | 21.54% | 10.96%              | 11.53%              | 8.84%                | 8.12%                          |
| S&P 500 Index <sup>2</sup> | –      | –                   | –                 | –              | -0.76%  | 13.98% | 10.77%              | 13.29%              | 9.49%                | 8.55%                          |

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The Fund's performance data represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data shown. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that you may have a gain or loss upon sale. You can obtain performance data current to the most recent month-end at [www.meridianfund.com](http://www.meridianfund.com).

Performance prior to 09.05.2013 reflects the Fund's performance under the management of Aster Investment Management Co. using similar investment strategies. ALPS Distributors, Inc. and Aster Investment Management Co. are unaffiliated. **A Class:** Prior to 07.01.2015, the A Class was named Advisor Class. The historical performance shown for periods prior to inception on 11.15.2013 was calculated using historical Legacy class performance as adjusted for estimated class specific expenses for distribution, shareholder servicing and sub-transfer agency fees without consideration to any expense limitation or waivers. The annual gross expense ratio is 1.68% as of 10.31.2017. The annual net expense ratio is 1.73% after a recoupment of 0.05% is added to the overall gross expense ratio as of 10.31.2017. If the class had been offered prior to 11.01.2013, the actual performance and expenses may have differed from the amounts shown. **C Class:** The historical performance shown for periods prior to inception on 07.01.2015 was calculated using historical Legacy class performance as adjusted for estimated class specific expenses, for distribution, shareholder servicing and sub-transfer agency fees, without consideration to any expense limitation or waivers. The annual gross expense ratio is 2.33% as of 10.31.2017. may have differed from the amounts shown. **Investor Class:** The historical performance shown for periods prior to inception on 11.15.2013. The annual net expense ratio is 2.13% after a reduction of 0.20% is subtracted from the total annual gross expense ratio as of 10.31.2017. If the class had been offered prior to 07.01.2015, the actual performance and expenses as calculated using historical Legacy class performance as adjusted for estimated class specific expenses for shareholder servicing and sub-transfer agency fees without consideration to any expense limitation or waivers. The annual gross expense ratio is 1.44% as of 10.31.2017. The annual net expense ratio is 1.47% after a recoupment of 0.03% is added to the overall gross expense ratio as of 10.31.2017. If the class had been offered prior to 11.15.2013, the actual performance and expenses may have differed from the amounts shown. **Legacy Shares:** The annual gross expense ratio is 1.35%; current actual expenses may be higher or lower. The annual net expense ratio is 1.38% after a recoupment of 0.03% is added to the total annual gross expense ratio. Legacy class shares of the Fund are no longer available for purchase by new investors, except under certain limited circumstances which are described in the Statement of Additional Information.

<sup>1</sup>Alpha and beta are calculated over 36 months. Standard deviation and Sharpe are calculated over most recent 12 months. Calculation source; Bloomberg. <sup>2</sup>The Fund's Index, The S&P 500® Index, is a commonly recognized market-capitalization-weighted index of 500 widely held equity securities, designed to measure broad U.S. equity performance. One cannot directly invest in an index. <sup>3</sup>Since inception returns are calculated using the Fund's Legacy class inception date of 01.31.2005. <sup>4</sup>Performance is annualized.

#### Principal Investment Risks

The Investment Adviser uses the Fund's principal investment strategies and other investment strategies to achieve the Fund's investment objective of long-term growth of capital. There is no assurance that the Investment Adviser's investment strategies or securities selection method will achieve that investment objective. Equity securities fluctuate in price and value in response to many factors including historical and prospective earnings of the issuer and its financial condition, the value of its assets, general economic conditions, interest rates, investors' perceptions and market liquidity. The value of the Fund's investments will fluctuate in response to the activities of individual companies and general stock market and economic conditions. As a result, the value of your investment in the Fund may be more or less than your purchase price. The Fund may not be able to pay distributions or may have to reduce its distribution level if the amount of dividends and/or interest received by the Fund on the securities it holds declines or is insufficient to pay such distributions. The stock prices of small and mid-capitalization and newer companies tend to fluctuate more than those of larger capitalized and/or more established companies and generally have a smaller market for their shares than do large capitalization companies. There are risks involved with any investment. There are principal risks associated with an investment in the Fund, which could adversely affect its net asset value, yield and return. Please see the section "Further Information About Principal Risks" in the Prospectus for a more detailed discussion of these risks and other factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in the Fund. *An investment in the Fund may lose money and is not a deposit of a bank or insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency.*

#### Glossary

**Alpha:** A measure of performance on a risk-adjusted basis. Alpha compares the volatility (price risk) of the Fund to risk-adjusted performance of the benchmark Index. **Beta:** A statistical measure of the Fund's volatility relative to the broader peer group is measured against the benchmark Index, which is deemed to equal 1.00. **Standard Deviation:** Measures variability of returns around the average return for an investment portfolio. Higher standard deviation suggests greater risk. **Sharpe:** Measures risk-adjusted performance. **Number of Holdings:** The total number of individual equities held by the Fund. **Weighted Average Market Cap:** The weighted average of market capitalization (market price multiplied by the number of shares outstanding) of the stocks in the portfolio, weighted according to its percent held in the fund. **Price to Earnings:** A valuation ratio of current share price compared to its per-share operating earnings over the previous four quarters. **Price to Book:** A ratio used to compare a stock's market value to its book value. It is calculated by dividing the current closing price of the stock by the latest quarter's book value per share. **Price to Sales:** A ratio for valuing a stock relative to its own past performance, other companies or the market itself. Price to sales is calculated by dividing a stock's current price by its revenue per share for the trailing 12 months. **Price to Cash Flow:** A measure of the market's expectations of a firm's future financial health. Because this measure deals with cash flow, the effects of depreciation and other non-cash factors are removed.

ALPS Distributors, Inc., a member FINRA, is the distributor of the Meridian Funds, advised by ArrowMark Colorado Holdings, LLC. ALPS, Meridian and ArrowMark are unaffiliated.



#### ABOUT ARROWMARK PARTNERS

ArrowMark Colorado Holdings, LLC ("ArrowMark Partners"), is an employee owned asset manager with specialized expertise in alternative fixed income and capacity constrained equity strategies. Our unique approach, based on the team's collective experience navigating market cycles, provides extensive insights across the capital structure and a skilled understanding of how to manage complex risk/reward tradeoffs through fundamental research.