# Strategic Total Return Fund (CSQ)

CALAMOS® INVESTMENTS

## FUND HIGHLIGHTS

- Closed-end fund portfolio with a mix of equities, convertible bonds and high yield bonds
- Current annualized distribution rate of 9.95%[1]
- May complement the equity portion of an investor's asset allocation
- Dividend Reinvestment Plan available
- Managed by an experienced team

## FUND SNAPSHOT

| | |
|---|---|
| NASDAQ ticker | CSQ |
| NAV Ticker | XCSQX |
| Market Price | $9.95 |
| NAV | $11.28 |
| Current Annualized Distribution Rate[1] | 9.95% |
| IPO Date | 3/26/04 |
| IPO Price | $15.00 |
| IPO NAV | $14.32 |

## LISTED

NASDAQ

[1]Current Annualized Distribution Rate is the Fund's most recent distribution, expressed as an annualized percentage of the Fund's current market price per share. **The Fund's most recent distribution was $0.0825 per share. Based on our current estimates, we anticipate that approximately $0.0395 is paid from ordinary income and $0.0430 of the distribution represents a return of capital.** Estimates are calculated on a tax basis rather than on a generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) basis, but should not be used for tax reporting purposes. Distributions are subject to re-characterization for tax purposes after the end of the fiscal year. This information is not legal or tax advice. Consult a professional regarding your specific legal or tax matters. Under the Fund's level rate distribution policy, distributions paid to common shareholders may include net investment income, net realized short-term capital gains and return of capital. When the net investment income and net realized short-term capital gains are not sufficient, a portion of the level rate distribution will be a return of capital. In addition, a limited number of distributions per calendar year may include net realized long-term capital gains. For a detailed breakdown of the Fund's distributions, see next page. Distribution rate may vary.

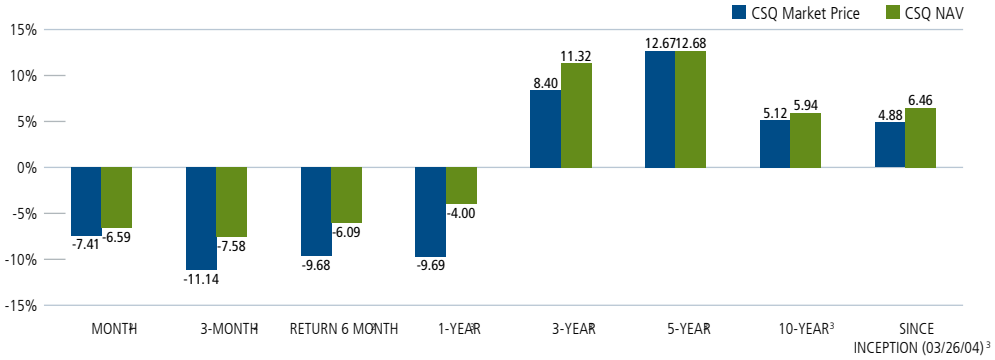
## Fund Objective

The Fund seeks total return through a combination of capital appreciation and current income by investing in a diversified portfolio of equities, convertible securities and below-investment-grade (high yield) fixed income securities.

## Investor Profile

The Fund seeks to offer investors equity participation and an attractive monthly distribution. By combining equities, convertible bonds and higher yielding corporate securities, the Fund seeks to generate capital gains as well as income, taking advantage of its flexibility to manage risk and reward over the full course of a market cycle. In effect, the Fund seeks to participate in long-term upward trends of the equity markets with the possibility of a stable monthly distribution.

### PERFORMANCE




[2] Total return measures net investment income and capital gain or loss from portfolio investments, assuming reinvestment of income and capital gain distributions.

[3] Average annual return measures net investment income and capital gain or loss from portfolio investments as an annualized average, assuming reinvestment of income and capital gain distributions.

In calculating net investment income, all applicable fees and expenses are deducted from the returns.

### CALENDAR YEAR RETURNS

| | YTD 2015 | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Market Price | -8.48% | 14.16% | 20.22% | 27.86% | -3.46% | 13.71% | 55.60% | -49.36% | -2.75% |
| NAV | -2.95 | 8.14 | 26.52 | 16.00 | -1.15 | 14.98 | 47.26 | -44.57 | 3.73 |

*Performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. The principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that your shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Returns at NAV reflect the deduction of the Fund's management fee, debt leverage costs and other expenses, which can be found on the next page.*

You can purchase or sell common shares daily. Like any other stock, market price will fluctuate with the market. Upon sale, your shares may have a market price that is above or below net asset value and may be worth more or less than your original investment. Shares of closed-end funds frequently trade at a discount which is a market price that is below their net asset value.

Please refer to following page for important notes.

# Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund (CSQ)

## SECTOR WEIGHTINGS*#

| | |
|---|---|
| Financials | 17.3% |
| Information Technology | 16.9 |
| Consumer Discretionary | 15.0 |
| Health Care | 12.1 |
| Industrials | 11.2 |
| Energy | 8.0 |
| Consumer Staples | 5.5 |
| Telecommunication Services | 3.3 |
| Materials | 2.8 |
| Utilities | 2.4 |

## PORTFOLIO ASSET ALLOCATION*

| | |
|---|---|
| Common Stock | 56.9% |
| Corporate Bonds | 17.7 |
| Convertible Bonds | 12.6 |
| Convertible Preferred Stock | 7.2 |
| Warrants | 0.1 |
| Cash and Receivables/Payables | 5.5 |

## FUND DATA

| | |
|---|---|
| Managed Assets | $2,467,281,403 |
| Total Common Share Assets | $1,742,281,403 |
| Shares Outstanding | 154,514,000 |
| Average Daily Volume (month) | 370,567 |
| Total Percent Leveraged[4] | 29.34% |
| Debt Coverage Ratio | 340% |
| Leverage Assets | $725,000,000 |
| Debt Leverage | $725,000,000 |
| Average Portfolio Turnover | 19.4% |
| Expense Ratio (based on managed assets) | 1.28% |

## TOP 10 HOLDINGS*#

| | SECURITY TYPE | |
|---|---|---|
| Apple, Inc. | Common Stock | 3.6% |
| General Electric Company | Common Stock | 2.6 |
| JPMorgan Chase & Company | Common Stock | 2.6 |
| Wells Fargo & Company | Common Stock | 2.4 |
| Citigroup, Inc. | Common Stock | 2.0 |
| Microsoft Corp. | Common Stock | 1.7 |
| Liberty Interactive, LLC (Time Warner Cable, Inc., Time Warner, Inc.) | 0.75% Cv Due 2043 | 1.6 |
| Pfizer, Inc. | Common Stock | 1.4 |
| Walt Disney Company | Common Stock | 1.3 |
| Anthem, Inc. | 5.25% Cv Pfd | 1.2 |

## FUND PRICING

| | |
|---|---|
| Market Price | $9.95 |
| NAV | $11.28 |
| Premium/Discount | -11.79% |

## FEES AND EXPENSES

| | TOTAL FUND |
|---|---|
| Management Fees | 1.00% |
| Debt Leverage Expense[6] | 0.23 |
| Other Expenses | 0.05 |
| TOTAL | 1.28 |

## DISTRIBUTION HISTORY, TRAILING 12 MONTHS†

| PAYABLE DATE | ORDINARY INCOME DIVIDENDS | RETURN OF CAPITAL DISTRIBUTIONS | SHORT-TERM CAPITAL GAIN DISTRIBUTIONS | LONG-TERM CAPITAL GAIN DISTRIBUTIONS | TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8/2015 | $0.0395 | $0.0430 | – | – | $0.0825 |
| 7/2015 | 0.0729 | 0.0096 | – | – | 0.0825 |
| 6/2015 | 0.0825 | – | – | – | 0.0825 |
| 5/2015 | 0.0096 | 0.0729 | – | – | 0.0825 |
| 4/2015 | 0.0599 | 0.0226 | – | – | 0.0825 |
| 3/2015 | 0.0825 | – | – | – | 0.0825 |
| 2/2015 | 0.0825 | – | – | – | 0.0825 |
| 1/2015 | 0.0117 | 0.0708 | – | – | 0.0825 |
| 12/2014 | 0.0495 | 0.0330 | – | – | 0.0825 |
| 11/2014 | 0.0139 | 0.0686 | – | – | 0.0825 |
| 10/2014 | 0.0825 | – | – | – | 0.0825 |
| 9/2014 | 0.0466 | 0.0359 | – | – | 0.0825 |
| TOTAL | 0.6336 | 0.3564 | – | – | 0.9900 |

† Distributions are subject to recharacterization for tax purposes within 60 days after the end of the fiscal year (10/31).

## QUALITY ALLOCATION^5

| | |
|---|---|
| AAA | 0.1% |
| AA | 0.0 |
| A | 1.3 |
| BBB | 10.4 |
| BB | 40.4 |
| B | 19.6 |
| CCC and below | 3.5 |
| Unrated Securities | 24.7 |

## INTEREST RATE SWAP MATURITY CHARACTERISTICS

| MATURITY | NOTIONAL AMOUNT | % OF TOTAL SWAP | SWAP RATE |
|---|---|---|---|
| 06/12/2017 | $47,000,000 | 47.47% | 1.01% |
| 07/05/2017 | $52,000,000 | 52.53% | 0.93% |

The portfolio is actively managed. Holdings and weightings are subject to change at any time without notice.

* Data is based on managed assets.

^ Data is based on portfolio holdings.

# Top 10 Holdings and Sector Weightings are calculated as a percentage of Managed Assets. The tables exclude cash or cash equivalents, any government/sovereign bonds or broad based index hedging securities the portfolio may hold.

[4] Leverage creates risks which may adversely affect return, including the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value and market price of common shares; and fluctuations in the variable rates of the leverage financing. The ratio is the percent of borrowing to total assets.

[5] Credit ratings apply to the credit worthiness of the issuers of the underlying securities and not to the fund or its shares. Ratings are subject to change. Bond Credit Quality reflects the higher of the ratings of Standard & Poor's Corporation; Moody's Investors Service, Inc.. Ratings are relative, subjective and not absolute standards of quality, represent the opinions of the independent Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations (NRSRO), and are adjusted to the Standard & Poor's scale shown. Ratings are measured using a scale that typically ranges from AAA (highest) to D (lowest). In addition, CAL has assigned its own ranking to the "unrated bonds" based on its fundamental and proprietary investment process and has years of experience actively managing risk. The security's credit rating does not eliminate risk. The table excludes equity securities, cash and cash equivalents. For more information about securities ratings, please see the Fund's Statement of Additional Information at www.calamos.com. Additional information on ratings methodologies are available by visiting the NRSRO websites: www.standardandpoors.com, www.moodys.com.

[6] Interest expense and related fees on payments made to the Fund's outstanding credit facility.

Investments by the Fund in lower-rated securities involve substantial risk of loss and present greater risks than investments in higher rated securities, including less liquidity and increased price sensitivity to changing interest rates and to a deteriorating economic environment. Fixed income securities are subject to interest-rate risk; as interest rates go up, the value of debt securities in the Fund's portfolio generally will decline. There are certain risks associated with an investment in a convertible bond such as default risk—that the company issuing a convertible security may be unable to repay principal and interest—and interest rate risk—that the convertible may decrease in value if interest rates increase.

Terms

**Level Rate Distribution Policy** is an investment company's commitment to common shareholders to provide a predictable, but not assured, level of cash flow. **Market Price** refers to the price at which shares of the fund trade in the market. **NAV or Net Asset Value** refers to the net value of all the assets held in the fund. **IPO Price** refers to the initial public offering price for shares of the fund.

CALAMOS® INVESTMENTS

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