Market Snapshot July 31, 2023

## **Economic Overview**

- 2nd quarter US GDP grew at a 2.4% annualized rate, reflecting continued consumer spending strength and an increase in business investment
- The Fed raised its policy rate 25 bps to 5.25% 5.50%, as expected, with forward guidance stressing a data dependent approach for future hikes
- Headline CPI fell to a 3.0% annual increase, lower than expected and the slowest rate since March 2021

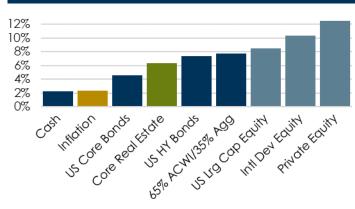
### **Market Returns**

- Equity markets rallied as lower inflation boosted sentiment
- Bonds lagged as surprising economic growth sent rates higher



Source: Bloomberg, ACG Research (as of 7/31/2023)

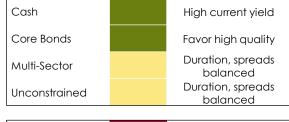
# Average Annual Return Assumptions (Next 10 Years)



## Asset Class Valuations - Rebalancing Rationale

- Equities currently priced for a benign economic Inflation and labor market data
- Favor core bonds (US Treasuries) over high yield
- Cash remains attractive with yields around 5%

#### Current **Asset Class** Valuation Rationale **US Large Cap** Expensive valuations Balanced **US Small Cap** upside/downside risks Favorable valuations Int'l Developed but staanant outlook Balanced **Emerging Mkt** upside/downside risks







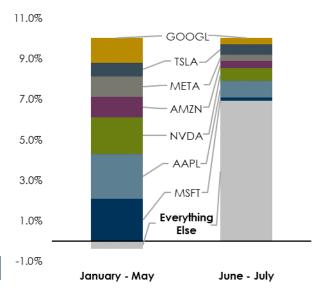
- Artificial Intelligence (August)
- Market Volatility (July)
- US Banking System & the Economy (May)

## Key Risk Factors We Are Watching

- Tightening financial conditions
- Fed policy mistake
- Downward revisions to corporate earnings
- Ongoing geopolitical tensions
- Weaker than expected China recovery

### Recent Returns Helped by Better Market Breadth

### S&P 500 YTD Contribution to Return



Source: Morningstar (as of 7/31/23)

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