# **NEWSLETTER**

Fall 2023-November 1, 2023

## **Summary**

- Economic News The Fed left the Fed funds rate unchanged additional on Nov 1.
- · Market Events The S&P 500 gained 9.33% over the past year.

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## **Economic News**

The US Real GDP increased at an annual rate of 4.9% in the third quarter of 2023.

Inflation measured in the 12-month Consumer Price Index (CPI) percentage change was 3.7% in September 2023. The Personal Consumption Expenditure Price Index (PCE) change was 3.4% in September 2023. The Fed's objective for inflation continues to remain at a 2 percent average and they expect to return to this level over time.

The Fed left the fed funds rate unchanged to a target rate of 5.25 to 5.5 percent in the November 1 FOMC meeting. Ongoing rate hikes are not decided on, but the Fed will continue restrictive monetary policy. The Fed believes this will assist in lowering inflation.

The US Dollar slightly strengthened with the US Dollar Index at 107.03. Oil prices have remained steady at now \$80.65 a barrel.

### **Market Events**

The S&P 500 today is 9.33% higher from a year ago. The 10-year treasury rate is at 4.81%.