

## Mid-Quarter Investment Market Commentary – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2022

December 1, 2022

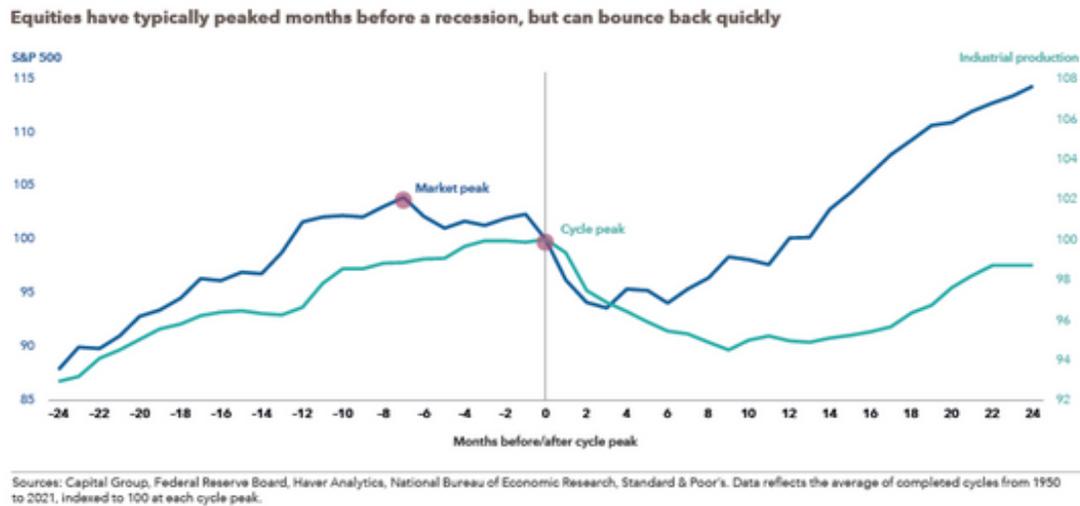
With the holiday season settling in, my mind tends to reflect on the coming end of the calendar year. 2022 has marked significant economic change from the impacts of higher than normal inflation to the onset of the current Bear Market for global investment markets. The back-and-forth of recent monthly market movement has elicited questions about a bottom or what's next—in other words in the investment journey “Are we there yet or can we expect further delays?”



The US and world economies had been enjoying a long, lazy Bull Market after the Financial Crisis of '07-'08. Then they were abruptly thrust onto a rough, poorly planned detour now known as the COVID Correction. After a lurching stop and restart, then the emergence of long-dormant Russian geo-political tensions, markets were more than vulnerable to tidal political and inflationary waves. While that Bull Market had been long and lazy, it was never loud and rowdy. It may just be that this Bear Market will be equally mindful of its manners. After all, it has already been eleven months in the making, and fulfilled all the basic requirements.

Keep in mind Bear Markets are not terminal events. In fact, they may be considered as bridges that connect Bull Markets. The reality is that financial markets—both Bull and Bear—are indeed a series of expanding and contracting events that are absolutely

connected. One starts where the other ends. And fortunately for investors in equities, historically Bull Markets have consistently been more productive and have lasted far longer than the shorter connecting Bears. Which in turn begs that question again, “Are we there yet?”



The favorite answer of parents, and the least favorite of children is, “You’ll know when we get there.” Which is actually how the beginnings and ends of Bull and Bear Markets are defined—in hindsight. Market reactions also tend to lead the business cycle, meaning market movement typically occurs prior to the start of a recession or recovery.

In client meetings throughout the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, we have been spending time updating financial plans to test saving and spending plans given recent pullbacks in asset values. These stress tests continue to provide renewed confidence for clients as we move into 2023 and the potential turnover in the business & market cycle.

Markets don't move in straight lines; they take detours, but by sticking to the mapped-out-plan, the destination comes into view by monitoring course corrections along the way.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season. We are looking forward to seeing you in the New Year, but should you have any concerns in the interim or if you are ready to schedule your next review, please let us know.

Warm Regards,

Jason

# Market Movement

## Asset Class Performance Year to Date through December 1, 2022

	YTD
S&P 500 (US Large Cap)	-14.5%
MSCI EAFE (Developed International)	-14.6%
MSCI Emerging Markets	-20.6%
Barclays Agg Bond (US Corporate Bonds)	-11.7%
Crude Oil	+8.0%
Gold	-0.7%

Source: FactSet. All performance percentages are simple appreciation, which excludes the effect of dividends.

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*Please remember the diversification and asset allocation do not guarantee a profit nor protect against loss and a declining market. They are methods used to help manage risk.*

*Dow Jones real estate indices are part of the Dow Jones global indices family, a comprehensive yet investable index series that provides 95% market capitalization coverage of 51 countries. The S&P 500 is a market cap with an index composed of the common stocks of 500 leading companies and leading industries of the US economy. Big DXY is the US dollar index. The NASDAQ composite index as a market value weighted index of all common stocks listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange. The MSCI world index as a free float adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets. As of June 2007 the MSCI world index consisted of the following 23 developed market country in the seas: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada,*

*Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The MSCI emerging markets index is a free float adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance of emerging markets. The Russell 2000 is a market cap weighted index composed of 2000 US small cap common stocks. The MSCI small-cap index target 40% of the eligible small-cap universe within each industry group within each country. MSCI defines the small-cap universe has all the securities that have a market capitalization in the range of USD 200 to 1,500 million.*

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