GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP INC
Form 424B2
September 05, 2018

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Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2)
Registration Statement No. 333-219206
GS Finance Corp.
$1,279,000
Autocallable Contingent Coupon Underlier-Linked Notes due 2023
guaranteed by
The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

If the closing level of any of the Russell 2000® Index, the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund or the Dow Jones Industrial Average® on any observation date is less than 70% of its initial level, you will not receive a coupon on the applicable payment date. The amount that you will be paid on your notes is based on the performances of the underliers. The notes will mature on the stated maturity date (September 8, 2023), unless automatically called on any observation date commencing in August 2019 to and including May 2023. Your notes will be automatically called if the closing level of each underlier on any such observation date is greater than or equal to its initial level (the initial levels are 1,740.753 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index, $28.33 with respect to the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund and 25,964.82 with respect to the Dow Jones Industrial Average®). If your notes are automatically called, you will receive a payment on the next payment date (the fifth business day after the relevant observation date) equal to the face amount of your notes plus a coupon (as described below).

The return on your notes is linked in part to the performance of the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund (ETF), and not to that of the Financials Select Sector Index (underlying index) on which the ETF is based. The performance of the ETF may significantly diverge from that of its underlying index. The ETF was reconstituted in September 2016 to generally remove exposure to companies involved in the real estate industry. Therefore, there is limited historical information regarding the reconstituted ETF.

Observation dates are the last calendar day of each February, May, August and November, commencing in November 2018 and ending in August 2023. If on any observation date the closing level of each underlier is greater than or equal to 70% of its initial level, you will receive on the applicable payment date a coupon of $13.75 for each $1,000 face amount of your notes.

The amount that you will be paid on your notes at maturity, if they have not been automatically called, in addition to the final coupon, if any, is based on the performance of the underlier with the lowest underlier return. The underlier return for each underlier is the percentage increase or decrease in the final level of such underlier on the final observation date from its initial level.

At maturity, for each $1,000 face amount of your notes, you will receive an amount in cash equal to:

- if the underlier return of each underlier is greater than or equal to -30% (the final level of each underlier is greater than or equal to 70% of its initial level), $1,000 plus a coupon calculated as described above; or
- if the underlier return of any underlier is less than -30% (the final level of any underlier is less than 70% of its initial level), the sum of (i) $1,000 plus (ii) the product of (a) the lesser performing underlier return times (b) $1,000. You will receive less than 70% of the face amount of your notes and no coupon.

If the underlier return for any underlier is less than -30%, the percentage of the face amount of your notes you will receive will be based on the performance of the underlier with the lowest underlier return. In such event, you will receive less than 70% of the face amount of your notes and no coupon.

You should read the disclosure herein to better understand the terms and risks of your investment, including the credit risk of GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. See page PS-12.

The estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date is equal to approximately $937 per $1,000 face amount. For a discussion of the estimated value and the price at which Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC would initially buy or sell your notes, if it makes a market in the notes, see the following page.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Original issue date: | September 5, 2018 | Original issue price: | 100% of the face amount |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Underwriting discount: | 4.725% of the face amount | Net proceeds to the issuer: | 95.275% of the face amount |

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense. The notes are not bank deposits and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency, nor are they obligations of, or guaranteed by, a bank.

Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC

Pricing Supplement No. 4,146 dated August 31, 2018.

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The issue price, underwriting discount and net proceeds listed above relate to the notes we sell initially. We may decide to sell additional notes after the date of this pricing supplement, at issue prices and with underwriting discounts and net proceeds that differ from the amounts set forth above. The return (whether positive or negative) on your investment in notes will depend in part on the issue price you pay for such notes.

GS Finance Corp. may use this prospectus in the initial sale of the notes. In addition, Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC or any other affiliate of GS Finance Corp. may use this prospectus in a market-making transaction in a note after its initial sale. Unless GS Finance Corp. or its agent informs the purchaser otherwise in the confirmation of sale, this prospectus is being used in a market-making transaction.

Estimated Value of Your Notes

The estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date (as determined by reference to pricing models used by Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC (GS&Co.) and taking into account our credit spreads) is equal to approximately $937 per $1,000 face amount, which is less than the original issue price. The value of your notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted; however, the price (not including GS&Co.'s customary bid and ask spreads) at which GS&Co. would initially buy or sell notes (if it makes a market, which it is not obligated to do) and the value that GS&Co. will initially use for account statements and otherwise is equal to approximately the estimated value of your notes at the time of pricing, plus an additional amount (initially equal to $19.25 per $1,000 face amount).

Prior to September 10, 2019, the price (not including GS&Co.'s customary bid and ask spreads) at which GS&Co. would buy or sell your notes (if it makes a market, which it is not obligated to do) will equal approximately the sum of (a) the then-current estimated value of your notes (as determined by reference to GS&Co.'s pricing models) plus (b) any remaining additional amount (the additional amount will decline to zero on a straight-line basis from the time of pricing through September 9, 2019). On and after September 10, 2019, the price (not including GS&Co.'s customary bid and ask spreads) at which GS&Co. would buy or sell your notes (if it makes a market) will equal approximately the then-current estimated value of your notes determined by reference to such pricing models.

About Your Prospectus

The notes are part of the Medium-Term Notes, Series E program of GS Finance Corp., and are fully and unconditionally guaranteed by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. This prospectus includes this pricing supplement and the accompanying documents listed below. This pricing supplement constitutes a supplement to the documents listed below and should be read in conjunction with such documents:

- General terms supplement no. 1,734 dated July 10, 2017
- Prospectus supplement dated July 10, 2017
- Prospectus dated July 10, 2017

The information in this pricing supplement supersedes any conflicting information in the documents listed above. In addition, some of the terms or features described in the listed documents may not apply to your notes.

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SUMMARY INFORMATION

We refer to the notes we are offering by this pricing supplement as the "offered notes" or the "notes". Each of the offered notes has the terms described below. Please note that in this pricing supplement, references to "GS Finance Corp.", "we", "our" and "us" mean only GS Finance Corp. and do not include its subsidiaries or affiliates, references to "The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.", our parent company, mean only The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and do not include its subsidiaries or affiliates and references to "Goldman Sachs" mean The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. together with its consolidated subsidiaries and affiliates, including us. Also, references to the "accompanying prospectus" mean the accompanying prospectus, dated July 10, 2017, references to the "accompanying prospectus supplement" mean the accompanying prospectus supplement, dated July 10, 2017, for Medium-Term Notes, Series E, and references to the "accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734" mean the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, dated July 10, 2017, in each case of GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. The notes will be issued under the senior debt indenture, dated as of October 10, 2008, as supplemented by the First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of February 20, 2015, each among us, as issuer, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor, and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee. This indenture, as so supplemented and as further supplemented thereafter, is referred to as the "GSFC 2008 indenture" in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

This section is meant as a summary and should be read in conjunction with the section entitled "Supplemental Terms of the Notes" on page S-15 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734. Please note that certain features described in the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734 are not applicable to the notes. This pricing supplement supersedes any conflicting provisions of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

Key Terms

Issuer: GS Finance Corp.

Guarantor: The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

Underliers: the Russell 2000® Index (Bloomberg symbol, "RTY Index"), as published by FTSE Russell; the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund (Bloomberg symbol, "XLF UP Equity"); and the Dow Jones Industrial Average® (Bloomberg symbol, "INDU Index"), as published by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC; see "The Underliers" on page PS-19

Underlying index of the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund: the Financials Select Sector Index, as published by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC

Specified currency: U.S. dollars ("$")

Face amount: each note will have a face amount equal to $1,000; $1,279,000 in the aggregate for all the offered notes; the aggregate face amount of the offered notes may be increased if the issuer, at its sole option, decides to sell an additional amount of the offered notes on a date subsequent to the date of this pricing supplement

Purchase at amount other than face amount: the amount we will pay you for your notes on a call payment date or the stated maturity date, as the case may be, will not be adjusted based on the issue price you pay for your notes, so if you acquire notes at a premium (or discount) to face amount and hold them to a call payment date or the stated maturity date, it could affect your investment in a number of ways. The return on your investment in such notes will be lower (or higher) than it would have been had you purchased the notes at face amount. See "Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes — If You Purchase Your Notes at a Premium to Face Amount, the Return on Your Investment Will Be Lower Than the Return on Notes Purchased at Face Amount and the Impact of Certain Key Terms of the Notes Will Be Negatively Affected" on page PS-14 of this pricing supplement

Supplemental discussion of U.S. federal income tax consequences: you will be obligated pursuant to the terms of the notes — in the absence of a change in law, an administrative determination or a judicial ruling to the contrary — to characterize each note for all tax purposes as an income-bearing pre-paid derivative contract in respect of the underliers, as described under "Supplemental Discussion of Federal

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Income Tax Consequences" herein. Pursuant to this approach, it is the opinion of Sidley Austin llp that it is likely that any coupon payment will be taxed as ordinary income in accordance with your regular method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If you are a United States alien holder of the notes, we intend to withhold on coupon payments made to you at a 30% rate or at a lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty. In addition, upon the sale, exchange, redemption or maturity of your notes, it would be reasonable for you to recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference, if any, between the amount of cash you receive at such time (excluding amounts attributable to any coupon payment) and your tax basis in your notes.
Automatic call feature: if, as measured on any call observation date, the closing level of each underlier is greater than or equal to its initial underlier level, your notes will be automatically called; if your notes are automatically called on any call observation date, on the corresponding call payment date, in addition to the coupon then due, you will receive an amount in cash equal to $1,000 for each $1,000 face amount of your notes
Cash settlement amount (on any call payment date): if your notes are automatically called on a call observation date because the closing level of each underlier is greater than or equal to its initial underlier level, for each $1,000 face amount of your notes, on the related call payment date, we will pay you an amount in cash equal to the sum of (i) $1,000 plus (ii) the coupon then due
Cash settlement amount (on the stated maturity date): if your notes are not automatically called, for each $1,000 face amount of your notes, we will pay you on the stated maturity date an amount in cash equal to:
if the underlier return of each underlier is greater than or equal to -30%, $1,000 plus the related coupon; or
if the underlier return of any underlier is less than -30%, the sum of (i) $1,000 plus (ii) the product of (a) the lesser performing underlier return times (b) $1,000. You will receive less than 70% of the face amount of your notes and no coupon
Lesser performing underlier return: the underlier return of the lesser performing underlier
Lesser performing underlier: the underlier with the lowest underlier return
Coupon: subject to the automatic call feature, on each coupon payment date, for each $1,000 face amount of your notes, we will pay you an amount in cash equal to:
if the closing level of each underlier on the related coupon observation date is greater than or equal to its coupon barrier level, $13.75; or
if the closing level of any underlier on the related coupon observation date is less than its coupon barrier level, $0
Initial underlier level: 1,740.753 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index, $28.33 with respect to the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund and 25,964.82 with respect to the Dow Jones Industrial Average®
Final underlier level: with respect to each underlier, the closing level of such underlier on the determination date, subject to anti-dilution adjustments (with respect to the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund only) as described under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Anti-dilution Adjustments for Exchange-Traded Funds" on page S-28 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, and except in the limited circumstances described under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day" on page S-23 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734 and subject to adjustment as provided under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Discontinuance or Modification of an Underlier" on page S-27 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734
Coupon barrier level: 1,218.5271 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index, $19.831 with respect to the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund and 18,175.374 with respect to the Dow Jones Industrial Average® (in each case, 70% of such underlier's initial underlier level)
Closing level: with respect to each underlier, as described under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Special Calculation Provisions — Closing Level" on page S-31 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, subject to anti-dilution adjustments (with respect to the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund only) as described under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Anti-dilution Adjustments for Exchange-Traded Funds" on page S-28 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734
Underlier return: with respect to each underlier on the determination date, the quotient of (i) the final underlier level minus the initial underlier level divided by (ii) the initial underlier level, expressed as a positive or negative percentage

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Defeasance: not applicable

No listing: the offered notes will not be listed or displayed on any securities exchange or interdealer market quotation system

Business day: as described under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Special Calculation Provisions — Business Day" on page S-30 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Trading day: as described under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Special Calculation Provisions — Trading Day" on page S-31 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Trade date: August 31, 2018

Original issue date (settlement date): September 5, 2018

Stated maturity date: September 8, 2023, subject to adjustment as described under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes —Stated Maturity Date" on page S-16 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Determination date: the last coupon observation date, August 31, 2023, subject to adjustment as described under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Determination Date" on page S-17 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Call observation dates: each coupon observation date commencing in August 2019 and ending in May 2023, subject to adjustment as described under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Coupon Observation Dates" on page S-20 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Call payment dates: the fifth business day after each call observation date, as described under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Call Payment Dates" on page S-16 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Coupon observation dates: the last calendar day of each February, May, August and November, commencing in November 2018 and ending in August 2023, subject to adjustment as described under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Coupon Payments— Coupon Observation Dates" on page S-25 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Coupon payment dates: the fifth business day after each coupon observation date to and including the stated maturity date, as described under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Coupon Payments— Coupon Payment Dates" on page S-25 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Regular record dates: the scheduled business day immediately preceding the day on which payment is to be made (as such payment date may be adjusted)

Use of proceeds and hedging: as described under "Use of Proceeds" and "Hedging" on page S-92 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

ERISA: as described under "Employee Retirement Income Security Act" on page S-95 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Supplemental plan of distribution; conflicts of interest: as described under "Supplemental Plan of Distribution" on page S-96 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734 and "Plan of Distribution — Conflicts of Interest" on page 94 of the accompanying prospectus; GS Finance Corp. estimates that its share of the total offering expenses, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately $15,000.

GS Finance Corp. has agreed to sell to Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC ("GS&Co."), and GS&Co. has agreed to purchase from GS Finance Corp., the aggregate face amount of the offered notes specified on the front cover of this pricing supplement. GS&Co. proposes initially to offer the notes to the public at the original issue price set forth on the cover page of this pricing supplement, and to certain securities dealers at such price less a concession not in excess of 4.375% of the face amount. GS&Co. is an affiliate of GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and, as such, will have a "conflict of interest" in this offering of notes within the meaning of Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (FINRA) Rule 5121. Consequently, this offering of notes will be conducted in compliance with the provisions of FINRA Rule 5121. GS&Co. will not be permitted to sell notes in this offering to an account over which it exercises discretionary authority without the prior specific written approval of the account holder.

We will deliver the notes against payment therefor in New York, New York on September 5, 2018.

We have been advised by GS&Co. that it intends to make a market in the notes. However, neither GS&Co. nor any of our other affiliates that makes a market is obligated to do so and any of them may stop doing so at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity or trading market for the notes.

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Calculation agent: GS&Co.

CUSIP no.: 40055QVQ2

ISIN no.: US40055QVQ27

FDIC: the notes are not bank deposits and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency, nor are they obligations of, or guaranteed by, a bank

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## HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLES

The following examples are provided for purposes of illustration only. They should not be taken as an indication or prediction of future investment results and are intended merely to illustrate (i) the impact that various hypothetical closing levels of the underliers on a coupon observation date could have on the coupon payable on the related coupon payment date and (ii) the impact that the various hypothetical closing levels of the lesser performing underlier on the determination date could have on the cash settlement amount at maturity assuming all other variables remain constant. The examples below are based on a range of underlier levels that are entirely hypothetical; no one can predict what the underlier level of any underlier will be on any day throughout the life of your notes, what the closing level of any underlier will be on any coupon observation date or call observation date, as the case may be, and what the final underlier level of the lesser performing underlier will be on the determination date. The underliers have been highly volatile in the past — meaning that the underlier levels have changed substantially in relatively short periods — and their performance cannot be predicted for any future period.

The information in the following examples reflects the hypothetical rates of return on the offered notes assuming that they are purchased on the original issue date at the face amount and held to a call payment date or the stated maturity date. If you sell your notes in a secondary market prior to a call payment date or the stated maturity date, as the case may be, your return will depend upon the market value of your notes at the time of sale, which may be affected by a number of factors that are not reflected in the examples below such as interest rates, the volatility of the underliers, the creditworthiness of GS Finance Corp., as issuer, and the creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor. In addition, the estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date (as determined by reference to pricing models used by GS&Co.) is less than the original issue price of your notes. For more information on the estimated value of your notes, see "Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes — The Estimated Value of Your Notes At the Time the Terms of Your Notes Are Set On the Trade Date (as Determined By Reference to Pricing Models Used By GS&Co.) Is Less Than the Original Issue Price Of Your Notes" on page PS-12 of this pricing supplement. The information in the examples also reflects the key terms and assumptions in the box below.

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Key Terms and Assumptions

| | |
|---|---|
| Face amount | $1,000 |
| Initial underlier level of the Russell 2000® Index | 1,740.753 |
| Initial underlier level of the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund | $28.33 |
| Initial underlier level of the Dow Jones Industrial Average® | 25,964.82 |
| Coupon barrier | 1,218.5271 with respect to the Russell 2000® Index, $19.831 with respect to the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund and 18,175.374 with respect to the Dow Jones Industrial Average® (in each case, 70% of such underlier's initial underlier level) |
| Coupon | $13.75 |

The notes are not automatically called, unless otherwise indicated below

Neither a market disruption event nor a non-trading day occurs on any originally scheduled coupon observation date or call observation date or the originally scheduled determination date

No change in or affecting any underlier, any of the underlier stocks or the policies of the investment advisor of the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund or the method by which the underlier sponsor of the Russell 2000® Index or the Dow Jones Industrial Average® or the sponsor of the underlying index of the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund calculates such underlying index

Notes purchased on original issue date at the face amount and held to a call payment date or the stated maturity date

For these reasons, the actual performance of the underliers over the life of your notes, the actual underlier levels on any call observation date or coupon observation date, as well as the coupon payable, if any, on each coupon payment date, may bear little relation to the hypothetical examples shown below or to the historical underlier levels shown elsewhere in this pricing supplement. For information about the underlier levels during recent periods, see "The Underliers — Historical Closing Levels of the Underliers" on page PS-29. Before investing in the notes, you should consult publicly available information to determine the underlier levels between the date of this pricing supplement and the date of your purchase of the notes.

Also, the hypothetical examples shown below do not take into account the effects of applicable taxes. Because of the U.S. tax treatment applicable to your notes, tax liabilities could affect the after-tax rate of return on your notes to a comparatively greater extent than the after-tax return on the underlier stocks.

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Hypothetical Coupon Payments

The examples below show hypothetical performances of each underlier as well as the hypothetical coupons, if any, that we would pay on each coupon payment date with respect to each $1,000 face amount of the notes if the closing level of each underlier on the applicable coupon observation date were the hypothetical closing levels shown.

Scenario 1

| Hypothetical Coupon Observation Date | Hypothetical Closing of the Russell 2000® Index | Hypothetical Closing Level of the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund | Hypothetical Closing Level of the Dow Jones Industrial Average® | Hypothetical Coupon |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| First | 1,200 | $30 | 15,000 | $0 |
| Second | 1,300 | $32 | 14,000 | $0 |
| Third | 1,800 | $35 | 25,000 | $13.75 |
| Fourth | 950 | $17 | 27,000 | $0 |
| Fifth | 1,100 | $18 | 19,000 | $0 |
| Sixth | 930 | $25 | 15,000 | $0 |
| Seventh | 1,350 | $34 | 20,000 | $13.75 |
| Eighth | 1,000 | $25 | 21,000 | $0 |
| Ninth | 1,400 | $30 | 24,000 | $13.75 |
| Tenth | 900 | $27 | 22,000 | $0 |
| Eleventh | 850 | $25 | 20,000 | $0 |
| Twelfth – Twentieth | 950 | $28 | 15,000 | $0 |
| | | | Total Hypothetical Coupons | $41.25 |

In Scenario 1, the hypothetical closing level of each underlier increases and decreases by varying amounts on each hypothetical coupon observation date. Because the hypothetical closing level of each underlier on the third, seventh and ninth hypothetical coupon observation dates is greater than or equal to its coupon barrier level, the total of the hypothetical coupons in Scenario 1 is $41.25. Because the hypothetical closing level of at least one underlier on all other coupon observation dates is less than its coupon barrier level, no further coupons will be paid, including at maturity.

Scenario 2

| Hypothetical Coupon Observation Date | Hypothetical Closing of the Russell 2000® Index | Hypothetical Closing Level of the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund | Hypothetical Closing Level of the Dow Jones Industrial Average® | Hypothetical Coupon |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| First | 1,800 | $18 | 15,000 | $0 |
| Second | 950 | $17 | 19,000 | $0 |
| Third | 940 | $15 | 28,000 | $0 |
| Fourth | 950 | $16 | 21,000 | $0 |
| Fifth | 850 | $19 | 17,000 | $0 |
| Sixth | 930 | $15 | 14,000 | $0 |
| Seventh | 1,050 | $14 | 12,000 | $0 |
| Eighth | 940 | $16 | 13,000 | $0 |
| Ninth | 980 | $17 | 16,000 | $0 |
| Tenth | 930 | $23 | 15,000 | $0 |
| Eleventh | 800 | $32 | 14,000 | $0 |
| Twelfth – Twentieth | 950 | $27 | 15,000 | $0 |
| | | | Total Hypothetical Coupons | $0 |

In Scenario 2, the hypothetical closing level of each underlier increases and decreases by varying amounts on each hypothetical coupon observation date. Because in each case the hypothetical closing level of at least one of the underliers on the related coupon observation date is less than its coupon barrier level, you will not receive a coupon payment on the applicable hypothetical coupon payment date. Since this occurs on every hypothetical coupon observation date, the overall return you earn on your notes will be less than zero. Therefore, the total of the hypothetical coupons in Scenario 2 is $0.

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Scenario 3

| Hypothetical Coupon Observation Date | Hypothetical Closing of the Russell 2000® Index | Hypothetical Closing Level of the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund | Hypothetical Closing Level of the Dow Jones Industrial Average® | Hypothetical Coupon |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| First | 950 | $16 | 16,000 | $0 |
| Second | 900 | $15 | 15,000 | $0 |
| Third | 1,000 | $14 | 16,000 | $0 |
| Fourth | 2,000 | $40 | 29,000 | $13.75 |
| | | | Total Hypothetical Coupons | $13.75 |

In Scenario 3, the hypothetical closing level of each underlier is less than 70% of its initial underlier level on the first three hypothetical coupon observation dates, but increases to a level that is greater than its initial underlier level on the fourth hypothetical coupon observation date. Because the hypothetical closing level of each underlier is greater than or equal to its initial underlier level on the fourth hypothetical coupon observation date (which is also the first hypothetical call observation date), your notes will be automatically called. Therefore, on the corresponding hypothetical call payment date, in addition to the hypothetical coupon of $13.75, you will receive an amount in cash equal to $1,000 for each $1,000 face amount of your notes.

Hypothetical Payment at Maturity

If the notes are not automatically called on any call observation date (i.e., on each call observation date the closing level of any underlier is less than its initial underlier level), the cash settlement amount we would deliver for each $1,000 face amount of your notes on the stated maturity date will depend on the performance of the lesser performing underlier on the determination date, as shown in the table below. The table below assumes that the notes have not been automatically called on a call observation date, does not include the final coupon, if any, and reflects hypothetical cash settlement amounts that you could receive on the stated maturity date. If the final underlier level of the lesser performing underlier (as a percentage of the initial underlier level) is less than 70%, you will not be paid a final coupon at maturity.

The levels in the left column of the table below represent hypothetical final underlier levels of the lesser performing underlier and are expressed as percentages of the initial underlier level of the lesser performing underlier. The amounts in the right column represent the hypothetical cash settlement amounts, based on the corresponding hypothetical final underlier level of the lesser performing underlier (expressed as a percentage of the initial underlier level of the lesser performing underlier), and are expressed as percentages of the face amount of a note (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth of a percent). Thus, a hypothetical cash settlement amount of 100.000% means that the value of the cash payment that we would deliver for each $1,000 of the outstanding face amount of the offered notes on the stated maturity date would equal 100.000% of the face amount of a note, based on the corresponding hypothetical final underlier level of the lesser performing underlier (expressed as a percentage of the initial underlier level of the lesser performing underlier) and the assumptions noted above.

The Notes Have Not Been Automatically Called

| Hypothetical Final Underlier Level of the Lesser Performing Underlier (as Percentage of Initial Underlier Level) | Hypothetical Cash Settlement Amount at Maturity if the Notes Have Not Been Automatically Called on a Call Observation Date (as Percentage of Face Amount) |
|---|---|
| 175.000% | 100.000%* |
| 150.000% | 100.000%* |
| 125.000% | 100.000%* |
| 100.000% | 100.000%* |
| 90.000% | 100.000%* |
| 80.000% | 100.000%* |
| 70.000% | 100.000%* |

| | |
|---|---|
| 69.999% | 69.999% |
| 50.000% | 50.000% |
| 25.000% | 25.000% |
| 20.000% | 20.000% |
| 10.000% | 10.000% |
| 0.000% | 0.000% |

*Does not include the final coupon

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If, for example, the notes have not been automatically called on a call observation date and the final underlier level of the lesser performing underlier were determined to be 25.000% of its initial underlier level, the cash settlement amount that we would deliver on your notes at maturity would be 25.000% of the face amount of your notes, as shown in the table above. As a result, if you purchased your notes on the original issue date at the face amount and held them to the stated maturity date, you would lose 75.000% of your investment (if you purchased your notes at a premium to face amount you would lose a correspondingly higher percentage of your investment). In addition, if the final underlier level of the lesser performing underlier were determined to be 175.000% of its initial underlier level, the cash settlement amount that we would deliver on your notes at maturity would be limited to 100.000% of each $1,000 face amount of your notes, as shown in the table above. As a result, if you held your notes to the stated maturity date, you would not benefit from any increase in the final underlier level over the initial underlier level.

The cash settlement amounts shown above are entirely hypothetical; they are based on market prices for the underlier stocks that may not be achieved on the determination date and on assumptions that may prove to be erroneous. The actual market value of your notes on the stated maturity date or at any other time, including any time you may wish to sell your notes, may bear little relation to the hypothetical cash settlement amounts shown above, and these amounts should not be viewed as an indication of the financial return on an investment in the offered notes. The hypothetical cash settlement amounts on notes held to the stated maturity date in the examples above assume you purchased your notes at their face amount and have not been adjusted to reflect the actual issue price you pay for your notes. The return on your investment (whether positive or negative) in your notes will be affected by the amount you pay for your notes. If you purchase your notes for a price other than the face amount, the return on your investment will differ from, and may be significantly lower than, the hypothetical returns suggested by the above examples. Please read "Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes — The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors" on page S-3 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

Payments on the notes are economically equivalent to the amounts that would be paid on a combination of other instruments. For example, payments on the notes are economically equivalent to a combination of an interest-bearing bond bought by the holder and one or more options entered into between the holder and us (with one or more implicit option premiums paid over time). The discussion in this paragraph does not modify or affect the terms of the notes or the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the notes, as described elsewhere in this pricing supplement.

We cannot predict the actual closing levels of the underliers on any day, the final underlier level of the underliers or what the market value of your notes will be on any particular trading day, nor can we predict the relationship between the closing levels of the underliers and the market value of your notes at any time prior to the stated maturity date. The actual coupon payment, if any, that a holder of the notes will receive on each coupon payment date, the actual amount that you will receive at maturity, if any, and the rate of return on the offered notes will depend on whether or not the notes are automatically called and the actual closing levels of the underliers on the coupon observation dates and the actual final underlier levels determined by the calculation agent as described above. Moreover, the assumptions on which the hypothetical examples are based may turn out to be inaccurate. Consequently, the coupon to be paid in respect of your notes, if any, and the cash amount to be paid in respect of your notes on the stated maturity date, if any, may be very different from the information reflected in the examples above.

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## ADDITIONAL RISK FACTORS SPECIFIC TO YOUR NOTES

An investment in your notes is subject to the risks described below, as well as the risks and considerations described in the accompanying prospectus, in the accompanying prospectus supplement and under "Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Notes" in the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734. You should carefully review these risks and considerations as well as the terms of the notes described herein and in the accompanying prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734. Your notes are a riskier investment than ordinary debt securities. Also, your notes are not equivalent to investing directly in the underlier stocks, i.e., with respect to an underlier to which your notes are linked, the stocks comprising such underlier. You should carefully consider whether the offered notes are suited to your particular circumstances.

The Estimated Value of Your Notes At the Time the Terms of Your Notes Are Set On the Trade Date (as Determined By Reference to Pricing Models Used By GS&Co.) Is Less Than the Original Issue Price Of Your Notes

The original issue price for your notes exceeds the estimated value of your notes as of the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date, as determined by reference to GS&Co.'s pricing models and taking into account our credit spreads. Such estimated value on the trade date is set forth above under "Estimated Value of Your Notes"; after the trade date, the estimated value as determined by reference to these models will be affected by changes in market conditions, the creditworthiness of GS Finance Corp., as issuer, the creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor, and other relevant factors. The price at which GS&Co. would initially buy or sell your notes (if GS&Co. makes a market, which it is not obligated to do), and the value that GS&Co. will initially use for account statements and otherwise, also exceeds the estimated value of your notes as determined by reference to these models. As agreed by GS&Co. and the distribution participants, this excess (i.e., the additional amount described under "Estimated Value of Your Notes") will decline to zero on a straight line basis over the period from the date hereof through the applicable date set forth above under "Estimated Value of Your Notes". Thereafter, if GS&Co. buys or sells your notes it will do so at prices that reflect the estimated value determined by reference to such pricing models at that time. The price at which GS&Co. will buy or sell your notes at any time also will reflect its then current bid and ask spread for similar sized trades of structured notes.

In estimating the value of your notes as of the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date, as disclosed above under "Estimated Value of Your Notes", GS&Co.'s pricing models consider certain variables, including principally our credit spreads, interest rates (forecasted, current and historical rates), volatility, price-sensitivity analysis and the time to maturity of the notes. These pricing models are proprietary and rely in part on certain assumptions about future events, which may prove to be incorrect. As a result, the actual value you would receive if you sold your notes in the secondary market, if any, to others may differ, perhaps materially, from the estimated value of your notes determined by reference to our models due to, among other things, any differences in pricing models or assumptions used by others. See "Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Notes — The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors" on page S-3 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

The difference between the estimated value of your notes as of the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date and the original issue price is a result of certain factors, including principally the underwriting discount and commissions, the expenses incurred in creating, documenting and marketing the notes, and an estimate of the difference between the amounts we pay to GS&Co. and the amounts GS&Co. pays to us in connection with your notes. We pay to GS&Co. amounts based on what we would pay to holders of a non-structured note with a similar maturity. In return for such payment, GS&Co. pays to us the amounts we owe under your notes.

In addition to the factors discussed above, the value and quoted price of your notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted. If GS&Co. makes a market in the notes, the price quoted by GS&Co. would reflect any changes in market conditions and other relevant factors, including any deterioration in our creditworthiness or perceived creditworthiness or the creditworthiness or perceived creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. These changes may adversely affect the value of your

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notes, including the price you may receive for your notes in any market making transaction. To the extent that GS&Co. makes a market in the notes, the quoted price will reflect the estimated value determined by reference to GS&Co.'s pricing models at that time, plus or minus its then current bid and ask spread for similar sized trades of structured notes (and subject to the declining excess amount described above).

Furthermore, if you sell your notes, you will likely be charged a commission for secondary market transactions, or the price will likely reflect a dealer discount. This commission or discount will further reduce the proceeds you would receive for your notes in a secondary market sale.

There is no assurance that GS&Co. or any other party will be willing to purchase your notes at any price and, in this regard, GS&Co. is not obligated to make a market in the notes. See "— Your Notes May Not Have an Active Trading Market" below.

The Notes Are Subject to the Credit Risk of the Issuer and the Guarantor

Although the coupons (if any) and return on the notes will be based on the performance of each underlier, the payment of any amount due on the notes is subject to the credit risk of GS Finance Corp., as issuer of the notes, and the credit risk of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor of the notes. The notes are our unsecured obligations. Investors are dependent on our ability to pay all amounts due on the notes, and therefore investors are subject to our credit risk and to changes in the market's view of our creditworthiness. Similarly, investors are dependent on the ability of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor of the notes, to pay all amounts due on the notes, and therefore are also subject to its credit risk and to changes in the market's view of its creditworthiness. See "Description of the Notes We May Offer — Information About Our Medium-Term Notes, Series E Program — How the Notes Rank Against Other Debt" on page S-4 of the accompanying prospectus supplement and "Description of Debt Securities We May Offer – Guarantee by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc." on page 33 of the accompanying prospectus.

You May Lose Your Entire Investment in the Notes

You can lose your entire investment in the notes. Assuming your notes are not automatically called, the cash settlement amount on your notes, if any, on the stated maturity date will be based on the performance of the lesser performing of the Russell 2000® Index, the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund and the Dow Jones Industrial Average® as measured from their initial underlier levels to their closing levels on the determination date. If the underlier return of any underlier is less than -30%, you will have a loss for each $1,000 of the face amount of your notes equal to the product of the lesser performing underlier return times $1,000. Thus, you may lose your entire investment in the notes, which would include any premium to face amount you paid when you purchased the notes.

Also, the market price of your notes prior to a call payment date or the stated maturity date, as the case may be, may be significantly lower than the purchase price you pay for your notes. Consequently, if you sell your notes before the stated maturity date, you may receive far less than the amount of your investment in the notes.

You May Not Receive a Coupon on Any Coupon Payment Date

If the closing level of any underlier on the related coupon observation date is less than its coupon barrier level, you will not receive a coupon payment on the applicable coupon payment date. If this occurs on every coupon observation date, the overall return you earn on your notes will be less than zero and such return will be less than you would have earned by investing in a note that bears interest at the prevailing market rate.

Although you will receive a coupon if the closing level of each underlier on the related coupon observation date is greater than or equal to its coupon barrier level, the coupon paid on the corresponding coupon payment date will be equal to $13.75. You should be aware that, with respect to prior coupon observation dates that did not result in the payment of a coupon, you will not be compensated for any opportunity cost implied by inflation and other factors relating to the time value of money. Further, there is no guarantee that you will receive any coupon payment with respect to the notes at any time and you may lose your entire investment in the notes.

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Your Notes Are Subject to Automatic Redemption

We will automatically call and redeem all, but not part, of your notes on a call payment date if, as measured on any call observation date, the closing level of each underlier is greater than or equal to its initial underlier level. Therefore, the term for your notes may be reduced to approximately twelve months after the original issue date. You will not receive any additional coupon payments after the notes are automatically called and you may not be able to reinvest the proceeds from an investment in the notes at a comparable return for a similar level of risk in the event the notes are automatically called prior to maturity.

The Coupon Does Not Reflect the Actual Performance of the Underliers from the Trade Date to Any Coupon Observation Date or from Coupon Observation Date to Coupon Observation Date

The coupon for each quarterly coupon payment date is different from, and may be less than, a coupon determined based on the percentage difference of the closing levels of the underliers between the trade date and any coupon observation date or between two coupon observation dates. Accordingly, the coupons, if any, on the notes may be less than the return you could earn on another instrument linked to the underliers that pay coupons based on the performance of the underliers from the trade date to any coupon observation date or from coupon observation date to coupon observation date.

The Cash Settlement Amount Will Be Based Solely on the Lesser Performing Underlier

If the notes are not automatically called, the cash settlement amount will be based on the lesser performing underlier without regard to the performance of the other underliers. As a result, you could lose all or some of your initial investment if the lesser performing underlier return is negative, even if there is an increase in the level of either (or both) of the other underliers. This could be the case even if the other underlier increased by an amount greater than the decrease in the lesser performing underlier.

The Return on Your Notes May Change Significantly Despite Only a Small Change in the Final Underlier Level of the Lesser Performing Underlier

If the final underlier level of the lesser performing underlier is less than 70% of its initial underlier level, you will receive less than the face amount of your notes and you could lose all or a substantial portion of your investment in the notes. This means that while a 30% drop between the initial underlier level of the lesser performing underlier and its final underlier level will not result in a loss of principal on the notes, a decrease in the final underlier level of the lesser performing underlier to less than 70% of its initial underlier level will result in a loss of a significant portion of your investment in the notes despite only a small change in the final underlier level of the lesser performing underlier.

If You Purchase Your Notes at a Premium to Face Amount, the Return on Your Investment Will Be Lower Than the Return on Notes Purchased at Face Amount and the Impact of Certain Key Terms of the Notes Will Be Negatively Affected

The cash settlement amount you will be paid for your notes on the stated maturity date, if any, or the amount you will be paid on a call payment date will not be adjusted based on the issue price you pay for the notes. If you purchase notes at a price that differs from the face amount of the notes, then the return on your investment in such notes held to a call payment date or the stated maturity date will differ from, and may be substantially less than, the return on notes purchased at face amount. If you purchase your notes at a premium to face amount and hold them to a call payment date or the stated maturity date, the return on your investment in the notes will be lower than it would have been had you purchased the notes at face amount or a discount to face amount.

If the Levels of the Underliers Change, the Market Value of Your Notes May Not Change in the Same Manner

The price of your notes may move differently than the performance of the underliers. Changes in the levels of the underliers may not result in a comparable change in the market value of your notes. Even if the closing level of each underlier is greater than or equal to its initial underlier level during some portion of the life of the notes, the market value of your notes may not reflect this. We discuss some of the reasons for this disparity under "Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes — The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors" on page S-3 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

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The Return on Your Notes Will Not Reflect Any Dividends Paid on the ETF or any Underlier Stocks

The return on your notes will not reflect the return you would realize if you actually owned the ETF and received the distributions paid on the shares of the ETF. You will not receive any dividends that may be paid on any of the underlier stocks by the underlier stock issuers or the shares of the ETF. See "—You Have No Shareholder Rights or Rights to Receive Any Shares of Any Underlier or Any Underlier Stock" below for additional information.

Except to the Extent The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. is One of the Companies Whose Common Stock Comprises the Dow Jones Industrial Average®, the Financials Select Sector Index and the ETF, and Except to the Extent GS&Co. and One or More of Our Other Affiliates Act as Authorized Participants in the Distribution of, and, at Any Time, May Hold, Shares of the ETF, There Is No Affiliation Between the Underlier Stock Issuers, the Underlier Sponsors, the ETF Investment Advisor or the ETF's Underlying Index Sponsor and Us

The common stock of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. is one of the underlier stocks comprising the Dow Jones Industrial Average® and the Financials Select Sector Index, and is one of the common stocks currently held by the ETF. In addition, GS&Co. and one or more of our other affiliates may act, from time to time, as authorized participants in the distribution of shares of the ETF, and, at any time, may hold shares of the ETF. We are not otherwise affiliated with the issuers of the underlier stocks, the underlier sponsors, the ETF investment advisor or the ETF's underlying index sponsor. As we have told you above, however, we or our affiliates may currently or from time to time in the future own securities of, or engage in business with, the underlier sponsors, the underlier stock issuers, the ETF investment advisor and the ETF's underlying index sponsor. Neither we nor any of our affiliates have participated in the preparation of any publicly available information or made any "due diligence" investigation or inquiry with respect to the underliers or any of the other underlier stock issuers. You, as an investor in your notes, should make your own investigation into the underliers and the underlier stock issuers. See "The Underliers" below for additional information about each underlier.

Neither the underlier sponsors, the ETF investment advisor nor any of the other underlier stock issuers are involved in the offering of your notes in any way and none of them have any obligation of any sort with respect to your notes. Thus, neither the underlier sponsors, the ETF investment advisor nor any of the other underlier stock issuers have any obligation to take your interests into consideration for any reason, including in taking any corporate actions that might affect the market value of your notes.

You Have No Shareholder Rights or Rights to Receive Any Shares of Any Underlier or Any Underlier Stock

Investing in your notes will not make you a holder of any shares of any underlier or any underlier stocks. Neither you nor any other holder or owner of your notes will have any rights with respect to an underlier or its underlier stocks, including any voting rights, any right to receive dividends or other distributions, any right to make a claim against the underlier or its underlier stocks or any other rights of a holder of any shares of an underlier or its underlier stocks. Your notes will be paid in cash and you will have no right to receive delivery of any shares of any underlier or any underlier stocks.

Your Notes May Not Have an Active Trading Market

Your notes will not be listed or displayed on any securities exchange or included in any interdealer market quotation system, and there may be little or no secondary market for your notes. Even if a secondary market for your notes develops, it may not provide significant liquidity and we expect that transaction costs in any secondary market would be high. As a result, the difference between bid and asked prices for your notes in any secondary market could be substantial.

We May Sell an Additional Aggregate Face Amount of the Notes at a Different Issue Price

At our sole option, we may decide to sell an additional aggregate face amount of the notes subsequent to the date of this pricing supplement. The issue price of the notes in the subsequent sale may differ substantially (higher or lower) from the issue price you paid as provided on the cover of this pricing supplement.

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The Policies of the ETF's Investment Advisor, SSGA Funds Management, Inc., and the Sponsor of the Underlying Index, S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, Could Affect the Amount Payable on Your Notes and Their Market Value

The ETF's investment advisor, SSGA Funds Management, Inc. ("SSGA" or the "ETF investment advisor"), may from time to time be called upon to make certain policy decisions or judgments with respect to the implementation of policies of the ETF investment advisor concerning the calculation of the net asset value of the ETF, additions, deletions or substitutions of securities in the ETF and the manner in which changes affecting the underlying index are reflected in the ETF that could affect the market price of the shares of the ETF, and therefore, the amount payable on your notes on the stated maturity date. The amount payable on your notes and their market value could also be affected if the ETF investment advisor changes these policies, for example, by changing the manner in which it calculates the net asset value of the ETF, or if the ETF investment advisor discontinues or suspends calculation or publication of the net asset value of the ETF, in which case it may become difficult or inappropriate to determine the market value of your notes.

If events such as these occur, the calculation agent — which initially will be GS&Co. — may determine the closing level of the ETF on a coupon observation date or the determination date, as applicable — and thus the amount payable on a coupon payment date, call payment date or the stated maturity date, if any — in a manner, in its sole discretion, it considers appropriate. We describe the discretion that the calculation agent will have in determining the closing level of the ETF on a coupon observation date or the determination date, as applicable, and the amount payable on your notes more fully under "Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Discontinuance or Modification of an Underlier" on page S-27 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

In addition, S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the "underlying index sponsor") owns the underlying index and is responsible for the design and maintenance of the underlying index. The policies of the underlying index sponsor concerning the calculation of the underlying index, including decisions regarding the addition, deletion or substitution of the equity securities included in the underlying index, could affect the level of the underlying index and, consequently, could affect the market prices of shares of the ETF and, therefore, the amount payable on your notes and their market value.

There Are Risks Associated with the ETF

Although the ETF's shares are listed for trading on NYSE Arca, Inc. (the "NYSE Arca") and a number of similar products have been traded on the NYSE Arca or other securities exchanges for varying periods of time, there is no assurance that an active trading market will continue for the shares of the ETF or that there will be liquidity in the trading market.

In addition, the ETF is subject to management risk, which is the risk that the ETF investment advisor's investment strategy, the implementation of which is subject to a number of constraints, may not produce the intended results. For example, the ETF investment advisor may select up to 10% of the ETF's assets to be invested in shares of equity securities that are not included in the underlying index. The ETF is also not actively managed and may be affected by a general decline in market segments relating to the underlying index. The ETF investment advisor invests in securities included in, or representative of, the underlying index regardless of their investment merits. The ETF investment advisor does not attempt to take defensive positions in declining markets.

In addition, the ETF is subject to custody risk, which refers to the risks in the process of clearing and settling trades and to the holding of securities by local banks, agent and depositories.

Further, under continuous listing standards adopted by the NYSE Arca, the ETF will be required to confirm on an ongoing basis that the components of the underlying index satisfy the applicable listing requirements. In the event that its underlying index does not comply with the applicable listing requirements, the ETF would be required to rectify such non-compliance by requesting that the underlying index sponsor modify such underlying index, adopting a new underlying index or obtaining relief from the Securities and Exchange Commission. There can be no assurance that the underlying index sponsor would so modify the underlying index or that relief would be obtained from the Securities and Exchange Commission and, therefore, non-compliance with the continuous listing standards may result in the ETF being delisted by the NYSE Arca.

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The ETF and its Underlying Index are Different and the Performance of the ETF May Not Correlate with the Performance of its Underlying Index

The ETF will generally invest in substantially all of the securities included in its underlying index. There may, however, be instances where the ETF may choose to overweight one or more securities in the underlying index, purchase securities not included in the underlying index or utilize various combinations of other available investment techniques in seeking to track its underlying index. Although the ETF seeks to track the performance of its underlying index as closely as possible, the ETF's return may not match or achieve a high degree of correlation with the return of its underlying index due to, among other things, operating expenses, transaction costs, cash flows, regulatory requirements and operational inefficiencies. In addition, corporate actions with respect to the securities included in the underlying index, such as mergers and spin-offs, may impact the variance between the ETF and its underlying index. For example, SSGA anticipates that it may take several business days for additions and deletions to the underlying index to be reflected in the portfolio composition of the ETF. Finally, as the shares of the ETF are traded on the NYSE Arca and are affected by market forces such as supply and demand, economic conditions and other factors, the trading prices of one share of the ETF generally differ from (and may deviate significantly during periods of market volatility from) the daily net asset value per share of the ETF. For these reasons, the performance of the ETF may not correlate with the performance of its underlying index.

The ETF Was Reconstituted in September 2016 and No Longer Provides Exposure to the Real Estate Sector

Effective as of the close of business on September 16, 2016, the Financials Select Sector Index ("underlying index") was reconstituted to eliminate the stocks of companies involved in the real estate industry (other than mortgage real estate investment trusts) ("real estate stocks"). In order to facilitate an efficient transition to the reconstituted underlying index, the ETF exchanged its real estate stocks for shares of the Real Estate Select Sector SPDR® Fund and then distributed those shares to its holders as a special share distribution with an ex-date of September 19, 2016. The ETF now tracks the performance of only those financial company stocks that remain in the underlying index following its reconstitution, which exclude real estate stocks. Consequently, the ETF is less diversified than it was before this change to its portfolio. For more information, please see "The ETF Is Concentrated in the Financial Sector and Does Not Provide Diversified Exposure" below.

The distributed shares of the Real Estate Select Sector SPDR® Fund represented a significant percentage (approximately 18.8%) of the net asset value of the ETF as of September 16, 2016 and the reconstitution of the ETF could adversely affect the performance of the ETF and the return on the notes. In addition, because the reconstituted ETF has no historical closing levels prior to September 19, 2016, limited historical information regarding the reconstituted ETF will be available for you to consider in making an independent investigation of the ETF performance, which may make it difficult for you to make an informed decision with respect to the notes.

Moreover, the historical performance of the ETF prior to its reconstitution might have been meaningfully different had the ETF not held real estate stocks at that time. Please see "The Underliers — Historical Closing Levels of the Underliers — Hypothetical Adjusted End of Month Closing Levels of the Financials Select Sector Index, the Underlying Index for the ETF, Through August 31, 2016" below for hypothetical performance information for the underlying index.

The ETF is Concentrated in the Financial Sector and Does Not Provide Diversified Exposure

The ETF is not diversified. The ETF's assets are concentrated in the Financials sector, which means that the ETF is more likely to be more adversely affected by any negative performance of the Financials sector than an ETF that has more diversified holdings across a number of sectors. Companies in the Financials sector can be affected by, among other things, business cycle fluctuations, competition, government regulation, a change in interest rates, and a change in a company's credit rating. In addition, effective on September 16, 2016, the underlying index was reconstituted to eliminate real estate stocks, which reduced the diversification of the ETF's assets. It is possible that the real estate stocks eliminated from the underlying index will perform better than the reconstituted underlying index, in which case the performance of your notes will be less than if the underlying index (and the ETF) had not been reconstituted.

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The ETF May Be Disproportionately Affected By the Performance of a Small Number of Stocks

Although the ETF holds 68 stocks as of August 31, 2018, approximately 44.77% of the ETF is invested in just 5 stocks – Berkshire Hathaway Inc. Class B, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Bank of America Corp., Wells Fargo & Co. and Citigroup Inc. As a result, a decline in the prices of one or more of these stocks, including as a result of events negatively affecting one or more of these companies, may have the effect of significantly lowering the level of the ETF even if none of the other stocks held by the ETF are affected by such events. Because of the weighting of the holdings of the ETF, the amount you receive at maturity could be less than the cash settlement amount you would have received if you had invested in a product linked to an underlier that capped the maximum weight of any one stock to a low amount or that equally weighted all stocks held by such underlier.

The Tax Consequences of an Investment in Your Notes Are Uncertain

The tax consequences of an investment in your notes are uncertain, both as to the timing and character of any inclusion in income in respect of your notes.

The Internal Revenue Service announced on December 7, 2007 that it is considering issuing guidance regarding the tax treatment of an instrument such as your notes, and any such guidance could adversely affect the value and the tax treatment of your notes. Among other things, the Internal Revenue Service may decide to require the holders to accrue ordinary income on a current basis and recognize ordinary income on payment at maturity, and could subject non-U.S. investors to withholding tax. Furthermore, in 2007, legislation was introduced in Congress that, if enacted, would have required holders that acquired instruments such as your notes after the bill was enacted to accrue interest income over the term of such instruments. It is not possible to predict whether a similar or identical bill will be enacted in the future, or whether any such bill would affect the tax treatment of your notes. We describe these developments in more detail under "Supplemental Discussion of Federal Income Tax Consequences – United States Holders – Possible Change in Law" below. You should consult your tax advisor about this matter. Except to the extent otherwise provided by law, GS Finance Corp. intends to continue treating the notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes in accordance with the treatment described under "Supplemental Discussion of Federal Income Tax Consequences" on page PS-33 below unless and until such time as Congress, the Treasury Department or the Internal Revenue Service determine that some other treatment is more appropriate. Please also consult your tax advisor concerning the U.S. federal income tax and any other applicable tax consequences to you of owning your notes in your particular circumstances.

Your Notes May Be Subject to the Constructive Ownership Rules

There exists a risk that the constructive ownership rules of Section 1260 of the Internal Revenue Code could apply to all or a portion of your notes. If all or a portion of your notes were subject to the constructive ownership rules, then all or a portion of any long-term capital gain that you realize upon the sale, exchange, redemption or maturity of your notes would be re-characterized as ordinary income (and you would be subject to an interest charge on deferred tax liability with respect to such re-characterized capital gain) to the extent that such capital gain exceeds the amount of "net underlying long-term capital gain" (as defined in Section 1260 of the Internal Revenue Code). Because the application of the constructive ownership rules is unclear you are strongly urged to consult your tax advisor with respect to the possible application of the constructive ownership rules to your investment in the notes.

Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) Withholding May Apply to Payments on Your Notes, Including as a Result of the Failure of the Bank or Broker Through Which You Hold the Notes to Provide Information to Tax Authorities

Please see the discussion under "United States Taxation — Taxation of Debt Securities — Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) Withholding" in the accompanying prospectus for a description of the applicability of FATCA to payments made on your notes.

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THE UNDERLIERS

The Russell 2000® Index

The Russell 2000® Index measures the composite price performance of stocks of 2,000 companies incorporated in the U.S., its territories and certain "benefit-driven incorporation countries."

As of August 22, 2018, the 2,000 companies included in the Russell 2000® Index were divided into nine Russell Global Sectors. The Russell Global Sectors include (with the approximate percentage currently included in such sectors indicated in parentheses): Consumer Discretionary (15.03%), Consumer Staples (2.45%), Financial Services (25.22%), Health Care (15.51%), Materials & Processing (6.91%), Other Energy (4.60%), Producer Durables (13.57%), Technology (12.71%) and Utilities (4.00%). (Sector designations are determined by the underlier sponsor using criteria it has selected or developed. Index sponsors may use very different standards for determining sector designations. In addition, many companies operate in a number of sectors, but are listed in only one sector and the basis on which that sector is selected may also differ. As a result, sector comparisons between indices with different index sponsors may reflect differences in methodology as well as actual differences in the sector composition of the indices.)

In addition to the exclusions discussed under "Exclusions from the Russell 2000® Index" on page S-62 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, a company with 5% or less of its voting rights in the hands of unrestricted shareholders is no longer eligible for inclusion in the Russell 2000® Index. Existing constituents of the Russell 2000® Index that do not currently have more than 5% of the company's voting rights in the hands of unrestricted shareholders have until the September 2022 review to meet this requirement.

The above information supplements the description of the underlier found in the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734. This information was derived from information prepared by the underlier sponsor, however, the percentages we have listed above are approximate and may not match the information available on the underlier sponsor's website due to subsequent corporation actions or other activity relating to a particular stock. For more details about the underlier, the underlier sponsor and license agreement between the underlier sponsor and the issuer, see "The Underliers — Russell 2000® Index" on page S-61 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

The Russell 2000® Index is a trademark of FTSE Russell ("Russell") and has been licensed for use by GS Finance Corp. The securities are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by Russell, and Russell makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in the securities.

The Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund

The shares of the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund (the "ETF") are issued by a series of the Select Sector SPDR® Trust, a registered investment company. The ETF seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before expenses, of the Financials Select Sector Index ("the underlying index"). The ETF trades on the NYSE Arca under the ticker symbol "XLF". SSGA Funds Management, Inc. ("SSGA") currently serves as the investment advisor to the ETF. SSGA employs a replication strategy in seeking to track the underlying index as described under "Replication Strategy" below.

We obtained the following fee information from the SPDR® website, without independent verification. The investment advisor is entitled to receive a management fee from the ETF based on a percentage of the ETF's average daily net assets, at an annual rate of 0.03%. In addition, the ETF has adopted a Distribution and Service Plan pursuant to which payments of up to 0.04% of average daily net assets may be made. The ETF also incurs other operating expenses up to an annual rate of 0.06%. As of June 30, 2018, the gross expense ratio of the ETF was 0.13% per annum.

For additional information regarding the Select Sector SPDR® Trust or SSGA, please consult the reports (including the Semi-Annual Report to Shareholders on Form N–CSRS for the period ended March 31, 2018) and other information SPDR® Series Trust files with the SEC. Information provided to or filed with the SEC can be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC or through the

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SEC's website at sec.gov. In addition, information regarding the ETF, including its top portfolio holdings, may be obtained from other sources including, but not limited to, press releases, newspaper articles, other publicly available documents, and the SPDR® website at spdrs.com. We are not incorporating by reference the website, the sources listed above or any material they include in this pricing supplement. We have obtained all information about the ETF from the SPDR® website without independent verification.

Investment Objective and Strategy

The ETF seeks to provide investment results that, before expenses, correspond generally to the price and yield performance of publicly traded equity securities of companies in the Financials Select Sector Index, which is comprised of companies in the Financials sector. SSGA uses a replication strategy to try to achieve the ETF's investment objective, which means that the ETF generally invests in substantially all of the securities represented in the underlying index it tracks in approximately the same proportions as the underlying index. In certain situations or market conditions, the ETF may temporarily depart from its normal investment policies and strategies provided that the alternative is consistent with the ETF's investment objective and is in the best interest of the ETF. For example, if the ETF is unable to invest directly in a component security or if a derivative investment may provide higher liquidity than other types of investments, it may make larger than normal investments in derivatives to maintain exposure to the underlying index that it tracks. Consequently, under such circumstances, such ETF may invest in a different mix of investments than it would under normal circumstances. The ETF is managed with an indexing investment strategy, attempting to track the performance of an unmanaged index of securities, regardless of the current or projected performance of the underlying index or of the actual securities comprising the underlying index. This differs from an actively managed ETF, which typically seeks to outperform a benchmark index. The ETF's performance may be less favorable than that of a portfolio managed using an active investment strategy. The structure and composition of the underlying index will affect the performance, volatility and risk of the underlying index and consequently, the performance, volatility and risk of the ETF.

As discussed in more detail in "The Underlying Index" below, effective as of the close of business on September 16, 2016 (the "rebalance date"), the underlying index was reconstituted by eliminating the stocks of companies involved in the real estate industry other than mortgage real estate investment trusts ("Mortgage REITs"). In order to facilitate an efficient transition to the reconstituted index, the ETF exchanged its real estate stocks for shares of the Real Estate Select Sector SPDR® Fund ("XLRE") in advance of the underlying index reconstitution. On the rebalance date, the ETF declared an in-kind distribution of 0.139146 shares of XLRE per share of the ETF to shareholders of the ETF. Following the distribution, the ETF holds only the stocks included in the rebalanced index which does not include stocks in the Real Estate industry group (other than Mortgage REITs, which has since moved to the Diversified Financials industry group).

The ETF's investment strategy and other policies may be changed without shareholder approval.

Notwithstanding the ETF's investment objective, the return on your notes will not reflect any dividends paid on the ETF shares, on the securities purchased by the ETF or on the securities that comprise the underlying index.

The following table displays the top holdings of the ETF. We obtained the information in the tables below from the SPDR® website, without independent verification.

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Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund Top Holdings as of August 31, 2018:

| Name: | Percentage (%) |
|---|---|
| Berkshire Hathaway Inc. Class B | 11.82% |
| JPMorgan Chase & Co. | 11.48% |
| Bank of America Corp. | 8.58% |
| Wells Fargo & Co. | 7.55% |
| Citigroup Inc. | 5.35% |
| U.S. Bancorp | 2.48% |
| The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. | 2.46% |
| American Express Company | 2.23% |
| PNC Financial Services Group Inc. | 1.98% |
| Morgan Stanley | 1.96% |

Holdings with Weights Equal to or in Excess of 5% of the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund as of August 31, 2018

Berkshire Hathaway Inc., JPMorgan Chase & Co., Bank of America Corporation, Wells Fargo & Company and Citigroup, Inc. are registered under the Exchange Act. Companies with securities registered under the Exchange Act are required to file financial and other information specified by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") periodically. Information filed with the SEC can be inspected and copied at the SEC's public reference room located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. You may obtain information on the operation of the public reference room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. In addition, information filed by these ETF stock issuers with the SEC electronically can be reviewed through a web site maintained by the SEC. The address of the SEC's web site is sec.gov. Information filed with the SEC by each of the above-referenced ETF stock issuers under the Exchange Act can be located by referencing its SEC file number specified below.

The graphs below show the daily historical closing levels of Berkshire Hathaway Inc. Class B, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Bank of America Corporation, Wells Fargo & Company and Citigroup, Inc. from August 31, 2008 through August 31, 2018. We obtained the prices in the graphs below using data from Bloomberg Financial Services, without independent verification. We have taken the descriptions of the ETF stock issuers set forth below from publicly available information without independent verification.

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According to publicly available information, Berkshire Hathaway Inc. is a holding company. Information filed with the SEC by the ETF stock issuer under the Exchange Act can be located by referencing its SEC file number 001-14905. The graph below shows daily historical closing levels for Berkshire Hathaway Inc.'s Class B common stock.

According to publicly available information, JPMorgan Chase & Co. is a financial services firm. Information filed with the SEC by the ETF stock issuer under the Exchange Act can be located by referencing its SEC file number 001-05805.

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According to publicly available information, Bank of America Corporation is a bank holding company and financial holding company. Information filed with the SEC by the ETF stock issuer under the Exchange Act can be located by referencing its SEC file number 001-06523.

According to publicly available information, Wells Fargo & Company is a bank holding company and financial holding company. Information filed with the SEC by the ETF stock issuer under the Exchange Act can be located by referencing its SEC file number 001-02979.

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According to publicly available information, Citigroup, Inc. is a financial services holding company. Information filed with the SEC by the ETF stock issuer under the Exchange Act can be located by referencing its SEC file number 001-09924.

Replication Strategy

The ETF uses a replication strategy to attempt to track the performance of the underlying index. This strategy involves investing in substantially all of the securities represented in the underlying index in approximately the same proportions as the underlying index. Under normal market conditions, the ETF generally invests substantially all, but at least 95%, of its total assets in the securities comprising the underlying index. The ETF will provide shareholders with at least 60 days notice prior to any material change in this 95% investment policy.

Correlation

Although SSGA seeks to track the performance of the underlying index (i.e., achieve a high degree of correlation with the return of the underlying index), the ETF's return may not match the return of the underlying index. The ETF incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to the underlying index and incurs costs in buying and selling securities. In addition, the ETF may not be fully invested at times, generally as a result of cash flows into or out of the ETF or reserves of cash held by the ETF to meet redemptions.

The following table displays information about the relative performance of the ETF's shares before taxes and the underlying index (from which the tracking error can be derived), in each case as of July 31, 2018. We obtained the information in the tables below from the SPDR® website, without independent verification.

| Period | Underlying Index | ETF |
|---|---|---|
| Year to Date | 0.97% | 0.84% |
| 1 Year | 13.47% | 13.27% |
| 3 Years | 13.24% | 13.08% |
| 5 Years | 13.10% | 12.96% |
| 10 Years | 6.88% | 6.78% |
| Since Inception | 4.47% | 4.30% |

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Industry Concentration Policy

The ETF's assets will generally be concentrated in an industry or group of industries to the extent that the underlying index concentrates in a particular industry or group of industries. By concentrating its assets in a single industry or group of industries, the ETF is subject to the risk that financial, economic, business or other conditions that have a negative effect on that industry or group of industries will negatively impact the ETF to a greater extent than if the ETF's assets were invested in a wider variety of industries.

The ETF is non-diversified and may invest a larger percentage of its assets in securities of a few issuers or a single issuer than a diversified ETF. As a result, the ETF's performance may be disproportionately impacted by the performance of relatively few securities.

Creation Units

Prior to trading in the secondary market, shares of the ETF are issued at net asset value to certain institutional investors (typically market makers or other broker-dealers) only in block-size units, known as creation units, of 50,000 shares or multiples thereof. As a practical matter, only institutions, market makers or large investors purchase or redeem creation units. The principal consideration for a specified number of creation units (which may be revised at any time without notice) is a basket of securities and/or cash that constitutes a substantial replication, or a representation, of the securities included in the underlying index. Except when aggregated in creation units (or upon the liquidation of the ETF), shares of the ETF are not redeemable securities. There can be no assurance that there will be sufficient liquidity in the public trading market at any time to permit assembly of a creation unit.

Share Prices and the Secondary Market

The trading prices of the ETF's shares will fluctuate continuously throughout trading hours based on market supply and demand rather than the ETF's net asset value, which is calculated at the end of each business day. The trading price of the ETF's shares may deviate significantly from its net asset value during periods of market volatility. The New York Stock Exchange disseminates an indicative optimized portfolio value of the ETF every fifteen seconds throughout the trading day. The indicative optimized portfolio value calculations are estimates of the values of the ETF's net asset value per share using market data.

The Underlying Index

The Financials Select Sector Index (Bloomberg symbol, "IXM Index"), which we refer to as the underlying index, is comprised of the constituents of the S&P 500® Index that are assigned to the Global Industry Classification Standard ("GICS®") Financials sector. The S&P 500® Index includes a representative sample of 500 companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy. The underlying index and the S&P 500® Index are calculated, maintained and published by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC ("S&P"). Additional information about the Financials Select Sector Index and the S&P 500® Index is available on the following websites: us.spindices.com/indices/equity/financial-select-sector-index and us.spindices.com/indices/equity/sp-500. We are not incorporating by reference the websites or any material they include in this pricing supplement. We have obtained all information about the underlying index from the S&P website without independent verification.

S&P and MSCI Inc. ("MSCI") jointly developed the GICS® in 1999 to establish a global standard for categorizing companies into sectors and industries. The GICS® classifies companies into four levels of detail: 11 sectors, 24 industry groups, 68 industries and 157 sub-industries. The eleven GICS® sectors are: Consumer Discretionary, Consumer Staples, Energy, Financials, Health Care, Industrials, Information Technology, Materials, Real Estate, Telecommunication Services and Utilities. GICS® was designed to classify a company according to its principal business activity. To make this determination, S&P and MSCI use revenues as a key measure of a company's business activity. Earnings and market perception, however, are also recognized as important and relevant information for classification purposes and are taken into account during the review process. A company's classification is reviewed annually at a minimum, and companies are under constant surveillance for corporate actions. The GICS® methodology itself is reviewed annually for changes or additions to the four classification levels.

Previously, the underlying index included companies in the Banks, Diversified Financials, Real Estate and Insurance industry groups. However, effective after the close of business on August 31, 2016, the Real Estate industry group within the Financials sector was elevated to a separate sector, and the Real Estate

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industry group, with the exception of the Mortgage REIT industry which remained in the Financials sector, was no longer included in the Financials sector. In order to implement this change to the GICS® Financial sector, effective after the close of business on September 16, 2016, all companies no longer included in the GICS® Financial sector were dropped from the underlying index.

As of August 31, 2018, the top ten constituents of the underlying index and their relative weight in the underlying index were as follows: Berkshire Hathaway Inc. Class B (11.84%), JPMorgan Chase & Co. (11.50%), Bank of America Corp (8.60%), Wells Fargo & Company (7.56%), Citigroup Inc. (5.36%), U.S. Bancorp (2.49%), Goldman Sachs Group Inc. (2.46%), American Express Company (2.23%), PNC Financial Services Group Inc. (1.99%) and Morgan Stanley (1.96%).

S&P rebalances the underlying index quarterly after the close of business on the third Friday of March, June, September and December (each, a "rebalancing effective date"). With prices reflected on the second Friday of March, June, September and December, and membership, shares outstanding and investable weight factors as of the rebalancing effective date, each company is weighted by float-adjusted market capitalization. Modifications to the float-adjusted market capitalization of constituent stocks are made as follows.

If any company has a weight greater than 24%, S&P caps that company's float-adjusted market capitalization weight at 23%. S&P sets the cap to 23% to allow for a 2% buffer to ensure that no stock exceeds 25% as of the rebalancing effective date. S&P redistributes all excess weight equally to all uncapped stocks within the underlying index. After this redistribution, if the float-adjusted market capitalization weight of any other stock(s) then breaches 23%, S&P repeats the process iteratively until no stock breaches the 23% weight cap. The sum of the stocks with weight greater than 4.8% cannot exceed 50% of the total index weight. If the rule in the preceding sentence is breached, then S&P ranks all the stocks in descending order of their float-adjusted market capitalization weights and the first stock that causes the 50% limit to be breached is identified. S&P then reduces the weight of that stock to 4.5%. S&P then redistributes the excess weight proportionally to all stocks with weights below 4.5% and the process is repeated iteratively until the 50% test above is satisfied. As part of the rebalancing process, S&P assigns index share amounts to each constituent stock to arrive at the weights calculated above. Since index shares are assigned based on prices one week prior to rebalancing, the actual weight of each stock at the rebalancing differs somewhat from these weights due to market movements. If necessary, the reweighting process may take place more than once prior to the close on the last business day of March, June, September or December to ensure the underlying index conforms to all diversification requirements.

Except for the rebalancing process described above and the total return process described below, the underlying index is calculated and maintained on the same basis as the S&P 500® Index, which is described beginning on page S-40 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

The ETF tracks the performance of the total return version of the underlying index. A total return index represents the total return earned in a portfolio that tracks the price index and reinvests dividend income in the overall index, not in the specific stock paying the dividend. The difference between the price return calculation and the total return calculation is that, with respect to the price return calculation, changes in the index level reflect changes in stock prices, whereas with respect to the total return calculation of the index, changes in the index level reflect both movements in stock prices and the reinvestment of dividend income. Notwithstanding the ETF's investment objective, the return on your notes will not reflect any dividends paid on the ETF shares, on the securities purchased by the ETF or on the securities that comprise the underlying index.

Once the price return index has been calculated, the total return index is calculated. First, the total daily dividend for each stock in the underlying index is calculated by multiplying the per share dividend by the number of shares included in the underlying index. Then the index dividend is calculated by aggregating the total daily dividends for each of the index stocks (which may be zero for some stocks) and dividing by the divisor for that day. Next the daily total return of the underlying index is calculated as a fraction minus 1, the numerator of which is the sum of the index level plus the index dividend and the denominator of which is the index level on the previous day. Finally, the total return index for that day is calculated as the product of the value of the total return index on the previous day times the sum of 1 plus the index daily total return for that day.

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In addition to the criteria for additions to the S&P® 500 Index set forth in the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, as of July 31, 2017, companies with multiple share class lines are no longer eligible for inclusion in the S&P 500® Index. Constituents of the S&P 500® Index prior to July 31, 2017 with multiple share class lines will be grandfathered in and continue to be included in the S&P 500® Index. If a constituent company of the S&P 500® Index reorganizes into a multiple share class line structure, that company will remain in the S&P 500® Index at the discretion of the S&P Index Committee in order to minimize turnover. Also as of July 31, 2017, the criteria employed by S&P for purposes of making additions to the S&P 500® Index were changed as follows:

with respect to the “U.S. company” criterion, (i) the IEX was added as an “eligible exchange” for the primary listing of the relevant company’s common stock and (ii) the former “corporate governance structure consistent with U.S. practice” requirement was removed; and

with respect to constituents of the S&P MidCap 400® Index and the S&P SmallCap 600® Index that are being considered for addition to the S&P 500® Index, the financial viability, public float and/or liquidity eligibility criteria no longer need to be met if the S&P Index Committee decides that such an addition will enhance the representativeness of the S&P 500® Index as a market benchmark.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average®

The Dow Jones Industrial Average®, which we refer to as the DJIA®, is a price-weighted index composed of 30 blue chip companies selected at the discretion of an Averages Committee comprised of three representatives of S&P Dow Jones Indices and two representatives of The Wall Street Journal. The DJIA® is sponsored by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, which we refer to as Dow Jones Indices. The Averages Committee selects the underlier components as the largest and leading stocks of the sectors that are representative of the U.S. equity market. The underlier does not include producers of goods and services in the transportation and utilities industries. The DJIA® is reported by Bloomberg under the ticker symbol “INDU <Index>”. Dow Jones Indices is under no obligation to continue to publish the DJIA® and may discontinue publication of the DJIA® at any time.

The top ten constituent stocks of the DJIA® as of August 17, 2018, by weight, are: The Boeing Company (9.15%), UnitedHealth Group Inc. (6.93%), The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (6.16%), Apple Inc. (5.75%), 3M Company (5.41%), The Home Depot, Inc. (5.17%), McDonald´s Corporation (4.26%), International Business Machines Corporation (3.86%), Visa Inc. - Class A (3.73%) and Caterpillar Inc. (3.68%). As of August 17, 2018, nine industry sectors which comprise the DJIA® represent the following weights in the index: Basic Materials (1.79%), Consumer Goods (5.55%), Consumer Services (16.83%), Financials (19.10%), Health Care (13.42%), Industrials (21.79%), Oil & Gas (5.18%), Technology (14.90%) and Telecommunications (1.45%). (Sector designations are determined by the underlier sponsor, or by the sponsor of the classification system, using criteria it has selected or developed. Index and classification system sponsors may use very different standards for determining sector designations. In addition, many companies operate in a number of sectors, but are listed in only one sector and the basis on which that sector is selected may also differ. As a result, sector comparisons between indices with different sponsors may reflect differences in methodology as well as actual differences in the sector composition of the indices.)

The above information supplements the description of the underlier found in the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734. This information was derived from information prepared by the underlier sponsor, however, the percentages we have listed above are approximate and may not match the information available on the underlier sponsor’s website due to subsequent corporation actions or other activity relating to a particular stock. For more details about the underlier, the underlier sponsor and license agreement between the underlier sponsor and the issuer, see “The Underliers — The Dow Jones Industrial Average®” on page S-87 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

S&P is a registered trademark of Standard & Poor’s Financial Services LLC (“S&P”) and Dow Jones®, DJIA®, The Dow® and Dow Jones Industrial Average® are trademarks of Dow Jones Trademark Holdings LLC (“Dow Jones”). The trademarks have been licensed to S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC and its affiliates and have been sublicensed for certain purposes by GS Finance Corp. The “Dow Jones Industrial Average®” is a product of S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC and/or its affiliates, and has been licensed for use by GS Finance Corp. The notes are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by S&P Dow Jones Indices

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LLC, Dow Jones®, S&P or any of their respective affiliates (collectively, "S&P Dow Jones Indices"). S&P Dow Jones Indices make no representation or warranty, express or implied, to the owners of the notes or any members of the public regarding the advisability of investing in securities generally or in the notes particularly or the ability of the Dow Jones Industrial Average® to track general market performance.

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Historical Closing Levels of the Underliers

The closing levels of the underliers have fluctuated in the past and may, in the future, experience significant fluctuations. Any historical upward or downward trend in the closing level of any underlier during the period shown below is not an indication that such underlier is more or less likely to increase or decrease at any time during the life of your notes.

You should not take the historical closing levels of an underlier as an indication of the future performance of an underlier. We cannot give you any assurance that the future performance of any underlier or the underlier stocks will result in you receiving any coupon payments or receiving the outstanding face amount of your notes on the stated maturity date.

Neither we nor any of our affiliates make any representation to you as to the performance of the underliers. Before investing in the offered notes, you should consult publicly available information to determine the relevant underlier levels between the date of this pricing supplement and the date of your purchase of the offered notes. The actual performance of an underlier over the life of the offered notes, as well as the cash settlement amount at maturity may bear little relation to the historical levels shown below.

The graphs below show the daily historical closing levels of each underlier from August 31, 2008 through August 31, 2018. We obtained the levels in the graphs below from Bloomberg Financial Services, without independent verification. Although the official closing levels of the Russell 2000® Index are published to six decimal places by the underlier sponsor, Bloomberg Financial Services reports the levels of the Russell 2000® Index to fewer decimal places.

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Hypothetical Adjusted End of Month Closing Levels of the Financials Select Sector Index, the Underlying Index for the ETF, Through August 31, 2016

As discussed above under “The Underliers — The Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund — The Underlying Index”, the Financials Select Sector Index was recently reconstituted to eliminate the stocks of companies involved in the real estate industry (other than mortgage real estate investment trusts). Therefore, unadjusted historical closing levels have not been included in the graph below.

The blue line (“weight-adjusted IXM close”) in the graph below shows hypothetical weight-adjusted month-end closing levels of the Financials Select Sector Index from January 31, 2011 through August 31, 2016. The hypothetical weight-adjusted IXM month-end closing data is produced on any such day by retroactively removing real estate stocks from the constituents of the Financials Select Sector Index on such day and adjusting the historical level of the underlying index based upon the percentage weight represented by all non-real estate constituents on such day. This hypothetical weight-adjusted approach is intended to simulate the performance of the Financials Select Sector Index had the underlying index not held real estate stocks prior to the reconstitution on September 16, 2016 discussed above under “The Underliers — The Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund — The Underlying Index”, while accounting for the dynamic nature of the underlying index as constituent weightings change over time. To create this hypothetical weight-adjusted performance data, historical weights and constituents as of the last calendar day of each month through August 31, 2016 were obtained from S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, without independent verification.

For comparative purposes, the green line (“static factor-adjusted IXM close”) in the graph below shows hypothetical static factor-adjusted month-end closing levels of the Financials Select Sector Index using a static adjustment factor of 0.812017. The static adjustment factor was obtained from Bloomberg Financial Services for use with historical prices of the ETF and was applied retroactively by us to the historical month-end closing levels of the Financials Select Sector Index through August 31, 2016. This static adjustment factor reflects the relative value of the components of the ETF immediately after the removal of real estate stocks from the constituents of the ETF on September 16, 2016 as compared to the value of the components of the ETF prior to such removal.

We provide both the hypothetical weight-adjusted month-end closing levels and the hypothetical static factor-adjusted month-end closing levels to help gauge whether application of the static adjustment factor (used by Bloomberg for the historical ETF closing levels) is a reasonable estimate of historical Financials Select Sector Index levels and historical ETF closing levels with real estate stocks removed. Neither the hypothetical weight-adjusted month-end closing levels reflected below nor the hypothetical static factor-adjusted month-end closing levels reflected below are indicative of the future performance of the Financials Select Sector Index.

Although the ETF seeks to track the performance of the Financials Select Sector Index as closely as possible, the ETF’s return may not match or achieve a high degree of correlation with the return of the Financials Select Sector Index due to, among other things, operating expenses, transaction costs, cash

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flows, regulatory requirements and operational inefficiencies. For a discussion of these reasons, please see "Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes — The ETF and its Underlying Index are Different and the Performance of the ETF May Not Correlate with the Performance of the Underlying Index" above. Please also see "The Underliers — The Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund — Investment Objective and Strategy" above for a table containing relative performance data of the ETF's shares before taxes and the underlying index (from which the tracking error can be derived) on S-24. You should not take the graph, or the weight-adjusted hypothetical performance data or static factor-adjusted hypothetical performance data used to create the graph, as an indication of the future performance of the Financials Select Sector Index or the ETF.

Hypothetical and Historical Closing Levels of the ETF

The closing level of the ETF has fluctuated in the past and may, in the future, experience significant fluctuations. Any historical upward or downward trend in the closing level of the ETF during any period shown below is not an indication that the ETF is more or less likely to increase or decrease at any time during the life of your notes.

You should not take the hypothetical or historical closing levels of the ETF as an indication of the future performance of the ETF. As discussed above under "— Hypothetical Adjusted End of Month Closing Levels of the Financials Select Sector Index, the Underlying Index for the ETF, Through August 31, 2016", the performance of the ETF prior to its reconstitution on September 16, 2016 might have been meaningfully different had the ETF not held real estate stocks at that time. We cannot give you any assurance that the future performance of the ETF or its underlying stocks will result in your receiving an amount greater than the outstanding face amount of your notes on the stated maturity date. Neither we nor any of our affiliates make any representation to you as to the performance of the ETF. The actual performance of the ETF over the life of the offered notes, as well as the cash settlement amount, if any, may bear little relation to the historical ETF closing levels shown below.

The graph below shows the daily hypothetical and historical closing levels of the ETF from August 31, 2008 through August 31, 2018, adjusted for corporate events, if applicable. We obtained the closing levels of the ETF in the graph below from Bloomberg Financial Services, without independent verification. In the graph, historical closing levels after the ETF was reconstituted as of the close of business on September 16, 2016 can be found to the right of the vertical solid line marker. Closing levels to the left of the vertical solid

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line marker reflect ETF closing levels before the ETF was reconstituted as of the close of business on September 16, 2016. These closing levels have been adjusted by Bloomberg Financial Services using the static adjustment factor of 0.812017 described above under "— Hypothetical Adjusted End of Month Closing Levels of the Financials Select Sector Index, the Underlying Index for the ETF, Through August 31, 2016". Investors may want to consider using the hypothetical Bloomberg-adjusted data as a proxy for how the ETF would have performed had the ETF not held real estate stocks prior to September 19, 2016; however, we have not independently verified the process Bloomberg Financial Services used in deriving the static adjustment factor nor that the ETF's constituents and weights used to calculate the static adjustment factor are representative of the ETF's constituents and weights on any date prior to September 19, 2016.

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SUPPLEMENTAL DISCUSSION OF FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

The following section supplements the discussion of U.S. federal income taxation in the accompanying prospectus. The following section is the opinion of Sidley Austin llp, counsel to GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. In addition, it is the opinion of Sidley Austin llp that the characterization of the notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes that will be required under the terms of the notes, as discussed below, is a reasonable interpretation of current law.

This section does not apply to you if you are a member of a class of holders subject to special rules, such as:

- a dealer in securities or currencies;
- a trader in securities that elects to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for your securities holdings;
- a bank;
- a life insurance company;
- a regulated investment company;
- an accrual method taxpayer subject to special tax accounting rules as a result of its use of financial statements;
- a tax exempt organization;
- a partnership;
- a person that owns a note as a hedge or that is hedged against interest rate risks;
- a person that owns a note as part of a straddle or conversion transaction for tax purposes; or
- a United States holder (as defined below) whose functional currency for tax purposes is not the U.S. dollar.

Although this section is based on the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, its legislative history, existing and proposed regulations under the Internal Revenue Code, published rulings and court decisions, all as currently in effect, no statutory, judicial or administrative authority directly discusses how your notes should be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and as a result, the U.S. federal income tax consequences of your investment in your notes are uncertain. Moreover, these laws are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis.

You should consult your tax advisor concerning the U.S. federal income tax and other tax consequences of your investment in the notes, including the application of state, local or other tax laws and the possible effects of changes in federal or other tax laws.

United States Holders

This section applies to you only if you are a United States holder that holds your notes as a capital asset for tax purposes. You are a United States holder if you are a beneficial owner of a note and you are:

- a citizen or resident of the United States;

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a domestic corporation;

an estate whose income is subject to U.S. federal income tax regardless of its source; or

a trust if a United States court can exercise primary supervision over the trust's administration and one or more United States persons are authorized to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

Tax Treatment. You will be obligated pursuant to the terms of the notes — in the absence of a change in law, an administrative determination or a judicial ruling to the contrary — to characterize your notes for all tax purposes as income-bearing pre-paid derivative contracts in respect of the underliers. Except as otherwise stated below, the discussion below assumes that the notes will be so treated.

Coupon payments that you receive should be included in ordinary income at the time you receive the payment or when the payment accrues, in accordance with your regular method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Upon the sale, exchange, redemption or maturity of your notes, you should recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale, exchange, redemption or maturity (excluding any amounts attributable to accrued and unpaid coupon payments, which will be taxable as described above) and your tax basis in your notes. Your tax basis in your notes will generally be equal to the amount that you paid for the notes. Such capital gain or loss should generally be short-term capital gain or loss if you hold the notes for one year or less, and should be long-term capital gain or loss if you hold the notes for more than one year. Short-term capital gains are generally subject to tax at the marginal tax rates applicable to ordinary income.

In addition, the constructive ownership rules of Section 1260 of the Internal Revenue Code could possibly apply to all or a portion of your notes. If all or a portion of your notes were subject to the constructive ownership rules, then all or a portion of any long-term capital gain that you realize upon the sale, exchange, redemption or maturity of your notes would be re-characterized as ordinary income (and you would be subject to an interest charge on deferred tax liability with respect to such re-characterized capital gain) to the extent that such capital gain exceeds the amount of "net underlying long-term capital gain" (as defined in Section 1260 of the Internal Revenue Code). Because the application of the constructive ownership rules is unclear you are strongly urged to consult your tax advisor with respect to the possible application of the constructive ownership rules to your investment in the notes.

No statutory, judicial or administrative authority directly discusses how your notes should be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, the U.S. federal income tax consequences of your investment in the notes are uncertain and alternative characterizations are possible. Accordingly, we urge you to consult your tax advisor in determining the tax consequences of an investment in your notes in your particular circumstances, including the application of state, local or other tax laws and the possible effects of changes in federal or other tax laws.

Alternative Treatments. There is no judicial or administrative authority discussing how your notes should be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Therefore, the Internal Revenue Service might assert that a treatment other than that described above is more appropriate. For example, the Internal Revenue Service could treat your notes as a single debt instrument subject to special rules governing contingent payment debt instruments.

Under those rules, the amount of interest you are required to take into account for each accrual period would be determined by constructing a projected payment schedule for the notes and applying rules similar to those for accruing original issue discount on a hypothetical noncontingent debt instrument with that projected payment schedule. This method is applied by first determining the comparable yield — i.e., the yield at which we would issue a noncontingent fixed rate debt instrument with terms and conditions similar to your notes — and then determining a payment schedule as of the applicable original issue date that would produce the comparable yield. These rules may have the effect of requiring you to include interest in income in respect of your notes prior to your receipt of cash attributable to that income.

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If the rules governing contingent payment debt instruments apply, any income you recognize upon the sale, exchange, redemption or maturity of your notes would be treated as ordinary interest income. Any loss you recognize at that time would be treated as ordinary loss to the extent of interest you included as income in the current or previous taxable years in respect of your notes, and, thereafter, as capital loss.

If the rules governing contingent payment debt instruments apply, special rules would apply to persons who purchase a note at other than the adjusted issue price as determined for tax purposes.

It is possible that the Internal Revenue Service could assert that your notes should generally be characterized as described above, except that (1) the gain you recognize upon the sale, exchange, redemption or maturity of your notes should be treated as ordinary income or (2) you should not include the coupon payments in income as you receive them but instead you should reduce your basis in your notes by the amount of coupon payments that you receive. It is also possible that the Internal Revenue Service could seek to characterize your notes in a manner that results in tax consequences to you different from those described above.

It is also possible that the Internal Revenue Service could seek to characterize your notes as notional principal contracts. It is also possible that the coupon payments would not be treated as either ordinary income or interest for U.S. federal income tax purposes, but instead would be treated in some other manner.

You should consult your tax advisor as to possible alternative characterizations of your notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Possible Change in Law

In 2007, legislation was introduced in Congress that, if enacted, would have required holders that acquired instruments such as your notes after the bill was enacted to accrue interest income over the term of such instruments. It is not possible to predict whether a similar or identical bill will be enacted in the future, or whether any such bill would affect the tax treatment of your notes.

In addition, on December 7, 2007, the Internal Revenue Service released a notice stating that the Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury Department are actively considering issuing guidance regarding the proper U.S. federal income tax treatment of an instrument such as the offered notes including whether the holders should be required to accrue ordinary income on a current basis and whether gain or loss should be ordinary or capital. It is not possible to determine what guidance they will ultimately issue, if any. It is possible, however, that under such guidance, holders of the notes will ultimately be required to accrue income currently and this could be applied on a retroactive basis. The Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury Department are also considering other relevant issues, including whether foreign holders of such instruments should be subject to withholding tax on any deemed income accruals, and whether the special “constructive ownership rules” of Section 1260 of the Internal Revenue Code might be applied to such instruments. Except to the extent otherwise provided by law, GS Finance Corp. intends to continue treating the notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes in accordance with the treatment described above unless and until such time as Congress, the Treasury Department or the Internal Revenue Service determine that some other treatment is more appropriate.

It is impossible to predict what any such legislation or administrative or regulatory guidance might provide, and whether the effective date of any legislation or guidance will affect notes that were issued before the date that such legislation or guidance is issued. You are urged to consult your tax advisor as to the possibility that any legislative or administrative action may adversely affect the tax treatment of your notes.

United States Alien Holders

This section applies to you only if you are a United States alien holder. You are a United States alien holder if you are the beneficial owner of the notes and are, for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

a nonresident alien individual;

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a foreign corporation; or

an estate or trust that in either case is not subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net income basis on income or gain from the notes.

Because the U.S. federal income tax treatment (including the applicability of withholding) of the coupon payments on the notes is uncertain, in the absence of further guidance, we intend to withhold on the coupon payments made to you at a 30% rate or at a lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty under an "other income" or similar provision. We will not make payments of any additional amounts. To claim a reduced treaty rate for withholding, you generally must provide a valid Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN, Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN-E, or an acceptable substitute form upon which you certify, under penalty of perjury, your status as a U.S. alien holder and your entitlement to the lower treaty rate. Payments will be made to you at a reduced treaty rate of withholding only if such reduced treaty rate would apply to any possible characterization of the payments (including, for example, if the coupon payments were characterized as contract fees). Withholding also may not apply to coupon payments made to you if: (i) the coupon payments are "effectively connected" with your conduct of a trade or business in the United States and are includable in your gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (ii) the coupon payments are attributable to a permanent establishment that you maintain in the United States, if required by an applicable tax treaty, and (iii) you comply with the requisite certification requirements (generally, by providing an Internal Revenue Service Form W-8ECI). If you are eligible for a reduced rate of United States withholding tax, you may obtain a refund of any amounts withheld in excess of that rate by filing a refund claim with the Internal Revenue Service.

"Effectively connected" payments includable in your United States gross income are generally taxed at rates applicable to United States citizens, resident aliens, and domestic corporations; if you are a corporate United States alien holder, "effectively connected" payments may be subject to an additional "branch profits tax" under certain circumstances.

You will also be subject to generally applicable information reporting and backup withholding requirements with respect to payments on your notes and, notwithstanding that we do not intend to treat the notes as debt for tax purposes, we intend to backup withhold on such payments with respect to your notes unless you comply with the requirements necessary to avoid backup withholding on debt instruments (in which case you will not be subject to such backup withholding) as set forth under "United States Taxation – Taxation of Debt Securities – United States Alien Holders" in the accompanying prospectus.

Furthermore, on December 7, 2007, the Internal Revenue Service released Notice 2008-2 soliciting comments from the public on various issues, including whether instruments such as your notes should be subject to withholding. It is therefore possible that rules will be issued in the future, possibly with retroactive effects, that would cause payments on your notes to be subject to withholding, even if you comply with certification requirements as to your foreign status.

As discussed above, alternative characterizations of the notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes are possible. Should an alternative characterization of the notes, by reason of a change or clarification of the law, by regulation or otherwise, cause payments with respect to the notes to become subject to withholding tax, we will withhold tax at the applicable statutory rate and we will not make payments of any additional amounts. Prospective United States alien holders of the notes should consult their tax advisors in this regard.

In addition, the Treasury Department has issued regulations under which amounts paid or deemed paid on certain financial instruments ("871(m) financial instruments") that are treated as attributable to U.S.-source dividends could be treated, in whole or in part depending on the circumstances, as a "dividend equivalent" payment that is subject to tax at a rate of 30% (or a lower rate under an applicable treaty), which in the case of any coupon payments and any amounts you receive upon the sale, exchange, redemption or maturity of your notes, could be collected via withholding. If these regulations were to apply to the notes, we may be required to withhold such taxes if any U.S.-source dividends are paid on the ETF or any of the stocks included in either the Russell 2000® Index or the Dow Jones Industrial Average® during the term of the notes. We could also require you to make certifications (e.g., an applicable Internal Revenue Service

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Form W-8) prior to any coupon payment or the maturity of the notes in order to avoid or minimize withholding obligations, and we could withhold accordingly (subject to your potential right to claim a refund from the Internal Revenue Service) if such certifications were not received or were not satisfactory. If withholding was required, we would not be required to pay any additional amounts with respect to amounts so withheld. These regulations generally will apply to 871(m) financial instruments (or a combination of financial instruments treated as having been entered into in connection with each other) issued (or significantly modified and treated as retired and reissued) on or after January 1, 2019, but will also apply to certain 871(m) financial instruments (or a combination of financial instruments treated as having been entered into in connection with each other) that have a delta (as defined in the applicable Treasury regulations) of one and are issued (or significantly modified and treated as retired and reissued) on or after January 1, 2017. In addition, these regulations will not apply to financial instruments that reference a "qualified index" (as defined in the regulations). We have determined that, as of the issue date of your notes, your notes will not be subject to withholding under these rules. In certain limited circumstances, however, you should be aware that it is possible for United States alien holders to be liable for tax under these rules with respect to a combination of transactions treated as having been entered into in connection with each other even when no withholding is required. You should consult your tax advisor concerning these regulations, subsequent official guidance and regarding any other possible alternative characterizations of your notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) Withholding

Pursuant to Treasury regulations, Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) withholding (as described in "United States Taxation—Taxation of Debt Securities—Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) Withholding" in the accompanying prospectus) will generally apply to obligations that are issued on or after July 1, 2014; therefore, the notes will generally be subject to FATCA withholding. However, according to published guidance, the withholding tax described above will not apply to payments of gross proceeds from the sale, exchange, redemption or other disposition of the notes made before January 1, 2019.

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VALIDITY OF THE NOTES AND GUARANTEE

In the opinion of Sidley Austin llp, as counsel to GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., when the notes offered by this pricing supplement have been executed and issued by GS Finance Corp., the related guarantee offered by this pricing supplement has been executed and issued by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., and such notes have been authenticated by the trustee pursuant to the indenture, and such notes and the guarantee have been delivered against payment as contemplated herein, (a) such notes will be valid and binding obligations of GS Finance Corp., enforceable in accordance with their terms, subject to applicable bankruptcy, insolvency and similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally, concepts of reasonableness and equitable principles of general applicability (including, without limitation, concepts of good faith, fair dealing and the lack of bad faith), provided that such counsel expresses no opinion as to the effect of fraudulent conveyance, fraudulent transfer or similar provision of applicable law on the conclusions expressed above and (b) such related guarantee will be a valid and binding obligation of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., enforceable in accordance with its terms, subject to applicable bankruptcy, insolvency and similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally, concepts of reasonableness and equitable principles of general applicability (including, without limitation, concepts of good faith, fair dealing and the lack of bad faith), provided that such counsel expresses no opinion as to the effect of fraudulent conveyance, fraudulent transfer or similar provision of applicable law on the conclusions expressed above. This opinion is given as of the date hereof and is limited to the laws of the State of New York and the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware as in effect on the date hereof. In addition, this opinion is subject to customary assumptions about the trustee's authorization, execution and delivery of the indenture and the genuineness of signatures and certain factual matters, all as stated in the letter of such counsel dated July 10, 2017, which has been filed as Exhibit 5.6 to the registration statement on Form S-3 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission by GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. on July 10, 2017.

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We have not authorized anyone to provide any information or to make any representations other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this pricing supplement, the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, the accompanying prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. This pricing supplement, the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is an offer to sell only the notes offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. The information contained in this pricing supplement, the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is current only as of the respective dates of such documents.

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$1,279,000

GS Finance Corp.

Autocallable Contingent Coupon Underlier-Linked
Notes due 2023
guaranteed by
The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC