



OAKCREST MARKET MINUTE

MARKET MINUTE MARCH 2026

- Steven Brill,
Investment &
Portfolio Associate
- Ryan Nietert, CEO



CONNECT WITH OAKCREST

 LinkedIn: Ryan Nietert

 Facebook: OakCrest Capital, LLC

 Twitter: OakCrestCapital

CONTACT US

Oakbrook

17W220 22nd St.
Suite 300
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
(312) 525-8793

Arlington Heights

3255 N. Arlington Heights Rd.
503
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
(847) 670-0925

Market Review

Markets began the year on strong footing and are pulling back from all-time highs as oil prices surge higher amidst Middle East tensions and supply disruptions creating uncertainty amongst all asset classes. For the week ending March 6, crude oil prices posted their largest weekly gain in over 40 years, up nearly 35% for the week alone. Conversely, both gold and S&P 500 were down 2% for this, the highly volatile first week of March. While higher energy prices can temporarily add pressure to equity markets and economic inputs, they also highlight the importance of diversification. International equities continue to perform well this year as market leadership has been broadening. The wider participation in domestic value and international markets, versus just growth centric equities, is a healthy sign for the longer-term strength of global markets.

Economic Review

The U.S. labor market began to show some slight unexpected weakness, with unemployment ticking up to 4.4%. While this represents a modest shift, employment conditions remain historically strong. At the same time, this data has created some uncertainty regarding the Federal Reserve's timing and pace of potential interest rate cuts for the duration of 2026.

Looking Forward

Looking ahead, markets are likely to remain driven by geopolitical events and other key metrics like inflation trends. We are also seeing a continued vast broadening beyond the large-cap tech leadership that dominated a majority of 2024 and 2025. Rotations continue to occur into utilities, energy, consumer staples, and raw materials; sectors that historically provide balance during periods of economic transition. We will also be watching the financial and technology sectors as the market continues to stabilize and rebalance.

RETURNS (AS OF 3/6/2026)

ASSET CLASS	INDEX	4 WEEK	YTD	1 YEAR
US Large Cap	S&P 500 TR	-2.65%	-1.34%	17.93%
US Large Cap	Dow Jones TR	-4.99%	-.81%	13.49%
US Small Cap	Russell 2000 TR	-5.39%	1.99%	23.84%
International	MSCI EAFE ex USA	-2.89%	2.71%	21.84%
Taxable Bonds	Barclays US Agg Bond TR	.37%	.79%	5.85%

